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ROK Official Speaks at Fish Preservation Conference

SK1407040693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] United Nations, July 13 [date as received] (YONHAP)—South Korea said Tuesday international efforts to preserve oceanic resources should be carried out while allowing fishing nations to catch the maximum amount of fish the ecosystem could sustain. In a keynote speech to the United Nations Conference on the Preservation of Fish Resources, South Korean Minister So Tae-won said that the preservation efforts should be realized within the framework of Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982. "Similar measures for preservation should be taken at economic zones as well as at open sea," he said.

Touching on the coastal nations' claim that excessive catching at open sea exhausted fish resources at economic zones, So said "to find out the truth of such an assertion, credible international organizations' scientific investigation should be done and both fishing countries and coastal nations should participate in the investigation." "Fish have different excursion radius. Therefore, cooperation based on articles of Convention on the Law of the Sea among countries concerned is more desirable for preserving fish resources rather than world-wide uniform regulatory measures," he said. South Korea, Japan and Argentina are expressing the opinions of fishing countries while others aired the views of coastal nations at the conference.

Japanese Official Speaks at Sea Law Conference

SK1407010893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 14 Jul 93 p 3

[By staff correspondent Cho Kyong-uk]

[Text] International Sea Law Conference opens the development of international law of the sea is essential to resolve a number of international problems including pollution and drug trafficking, said Japan's Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada yesterday. "As today's international community is heading toward increasing interdependence and diversification, the participation of new players, side by side with traditional players, is important to establish a new cooperative international order, said Owada, an expert on the law of the sea. He was speaking during an opening ceremony of the 27th annual Conference of the Law of the Sea Institute.

"South Korea and other countries of the East Asian region are expected to play a more active role as new players in establishing a new international order," Owada said. Speaking about the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, he said the convention has two tiers, "the first consisting or provisions establishing a legal order on traditional maritime issues and the second consisting of a completely new accord on deep seabed mining. He, however, regretted that the convention has not been brought to fruition because of the impasse surrounding the so-called "hard-core issues."

The dramatic changes that have come about in the political and economic environment after the adoption of the convention have undermined the conditions set forth in the convention for deep seabed mining, and have consequently further induced developed countries to turn their back on the convention, he said. In a news conference held after the opening ceremony, Owada said that Korea and Japan should cooperate together to cope with the problem of radioactive materials dumped by Russia into the East Sea.

The seminar will wind up Friday. About 300 international experts on the law of the sea, marine policy makers and other interested people are participating in the international seminar. They include Song Won-o, president of the Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute (KORDI), Pak Chun-ho, professor of the Asiatic Research Center of Korea University, and Edward L. Miles, presiding officer of the U.S. Law of the Sea Institute.

Arms Buildups Said Threatening Regional Security

BK1307023893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jul 93 p 4

[Commentary: "Arms race in region would turn back clock"]

[Text] When the World Bank/International Monetary Fund held their annual meeting here in October, 1991 all major speakers agreed on the desirability of reducing defence expenditure to provide more money for investment and economic development. This was the so-called peace dividend arising from the end of the cold war and, in theory, the proposal sounded wonderful. But then idealism is one thing; reality quite another.

The most recent evidence of this came yesterday in reports from Singapore and Beijing. Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Razak, speaking in the island republic, announced heavy spending on defence over the next 10 to 15 years. Malaysia's own procurement plans, besides advanced jet fighters and armour and missiles for its army, will include 27 large modern offshore patrol craft and possibly submarines, all to build "a credible deterrence," Mr Najib said.

Just two weeks ago, Malaysia said it would buy 18 Russian MIG29 fighters and eight McDonnell Douglas F/A-18Ds, making it the first southeast Asian country to have both US and Russian top-of-the-line fighters. Mr Najib declared that the end of the Cold War made security in Asia "fluid and unpredictable" and that countries with antiquated military equipment must upgrade their capability "to prepare for the worst scenario".

From Beijing came word that China is building a military air base in the disputed South China Sea and obtaining the necessary hardware to prepare for the possibility of armed conflict there, with the military already having bought 24 advanced Su-27 jet fighters and five heavy military transport planes from Russia. Further plans call for the co-production of Antonov-180 transport planes with Ukraine and the possible purchase of airborne warning systems, missile technology and an aircraft or helicopter carrier.

Although these arms purchases are described as modernisation programmes and there are strong denials of any intention to spark an arms race, they do provide very real cause for concern. While it is Kuala Lumpur's—or Beijing's, for that matter—sovereign right to spend whatever amount of money is felt necessary on acquiring sophisticated weaponry, sharp increases in defence spending bode ill in a regional context because they are bound to cause uneasiness among its neighbours. It must be remembered that regional disputes, such as the long-standing one between Malaysia and the Philippines over Sabah are still unresolved. At the same time, Malaysian spending is bound to cause unease in Singapore which is very much aware of the military might of its predominantly-Malay neighbours.

The undesirable spectre of an arms race runs contrary to the growing spirit of economic cooperation among members of ASEAN, particularly in the various sub-regional growth triangles now starting to take shape (including Batam that encompasses Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore; and the so-called Northern growth triangle involving Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.)

It is inconceivable that Malaysia might be reinforcing its military might so it could stake a stronger claim over the disputed Spratlys because none of the regional countries involved in this conflict could rival China's military muscle, no matter how much they spend on arms.

China, too, has to be criticised for partly triggering these concerns over a possible imbalance in the regional security equation. Since last year, Beijing has visibly tried to raise its military profile in the South China Sea, particularly in areas also claimed by Vietnam. Its latest plan to build a military base on the Paracels can only further heighten tension.

All countries jumping onto the bandwagon of a regional arms race stand to lose in the end. This is all rather unfortunate as one would have hoped and expected that countries within this region, China included, would get together and increase their economic cooperation in the post-Cold War era so that the huge budgets that would otherwise have been spent on arms could, instead, be diverted into more productive and constructive areas such as projects to improve the livelihood of the respective countries' own citizens.

Efforts must now be taken to avert an arms race. As first suggested by Japan, the broad framework of a regional security dialogue has already been adopted in the post-ASEAN ministerial forums, where ASEAN and its dialogue partners discuss security matters. This security dialogue should somehow be strengthened into either a formalised meeting or, perhaps, altered in form to become a more regular forum to tackle problems pertaining to potential flashpoints such as the Spratlys. Somehow an atmosphere of active cooperation on security matters has to be created to, first of all, put regional countries at ease, and later to attempt to resolve the various territorial disputes.

This is a real challenge to the region's post-Cold War management of peace. Southeast Asia does not want to see—and probably cannot afford—an arms race. Member states should resolve differences on security matters through intensified dialogues in a full spirit of cooperation. There is no other acceptable way.

Japan

Tokyo To 'Ignore' U.S. Call for Tax Reduction

OW1407132593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japan will ignore a call by a high-level U.S. official for a cut in income tax as part of its efforts to reduce its huge current account surplus, a senior government official said Wednesday [14 July]. "We don't mind such a call," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Gowman Cutter, deputy presidential assistant for economic policy, said Tuesday [13 July] Japan should cut income tax in the near future to slash its surplus.

Cutter, speaking at a Japanese-American business conference in Cleveland on Tuesday, said the United States will form a working-level negotiation group within a week to start talks with Tokyo by the end of July on removing trade barriers in five areas. Cutter heads a U.S. team that drew up the framework deal with Japan.

U.S. 'Denounced' Regarding Supercomputer Trade

OW1407130093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Tadahiro Sekimoto, president of the Electronic Industries Association of Japan, denounced the United States on Wednesday [14 July] over supercomputer trade between the two countries. "You maybe think the United States is clean and will never tell a lie," he told a news conference. "But it is not so."

Sekimoto, president of major electronics maker NEC Corp., was angered by U.S. criticism in trade talks with Japan that the Tokyo government gives priority to domestic makers in its procurement of supercomputers.

Supercomputers and automobiles were major areas of U.S. concern in negotiations for a new framework for bilateral trade with Japan. Sekimoto said the U.S. demands that Japan purchase more supercomputers made by Cray Research Inc., while Japanese-made supercomputers are completely shut out of the U.S. market.

He said he has sent a letter of protest to U.S. trade representative Mickey Kantor over the issue.

Tokyo, U.S. Develop Nuclear Monitoring System

OW1107070293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0641 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—Japan and the United States have jointly developed an automatic remote monitoring system for controlling nuclear materials such as plutonium and preventing hijacking of nuclear facilities, Japanese officials said Sunday [11 July].

The system, jointly developed by the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute and the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), would be activated in such emergencies and issue urgent coded reports to international organizations, the officials said. The device would be set off when intruders enter nuclear material storage facilities and attempt to break containers open.

The officials said it would also be activated if workers at the facilities attempt to secretly develop nuclear weapons. The Japanese institute and the ACDA have been studying the system for about a year, they said.

Dumping Probe Launched for PRC Cotton Cloth

OW1407131493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Japan Spinners Association said Wednesday [14 July] it has launched an investigation into whether or not Chinese-made cotton cloth is dumped in the Japanese market. If the products are found to be sold below fair prices in this country, the industry will file an antidumping complaint with the Finance Ministry's Customs and Tariff Bureau, Minoru Shibata, the association's president, told reporters at a news conference.

About 1.4 billion square meters of cotton cloth was consumed in Japan in 1992, with 36.3 percent of the amount imported from China.

Chinese imports are being sold in Japan at a level 30 to 40 percent lower from that for comparable Japanese products, Shibata said, disclosing the results of a survey made by the association.

Chinese manufacturers are suspected of exporting their products to Japan without adding costs for processing cotton yarn into cotton cloth, said Shibata, president of Toyobo Co., a major spinner.

Investment in China Reaches 'Turning Point'

OW1407132893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0834 GMT 14 Jul 93

[By Geoffrey Murray]

[Text] Beijing, July 14 KYODO—Japanese investment in China has reached a crucial turning point.

The slow trickle of the 1980s has become a torrent, the big names in the Japanese corporate world are finally moving in after letting the small fry first test the waters, and the investment is moving out from the consumer goods and services into the infrastructure and raw materials sectors.

The current China euphoria comes against a backdrop of declining investment in other parts of the world, gripped by poor economic performance.

At present, analysts here say China is absorbing at least 3 percent of Japan's total overseas investment against averages at 1 to 1.4 percent in the past.

"Japanese investment is at a turning point," said Zhou Ming, an official with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC). "More is being shifted to capital-intensive projects in infrastructure and raw materials."

Recent examples were several Sino-Japanese joint ventures in cement production and growing Japanese involvement in oil exploration, primarily in the remote region of Xinjiang, the official said.

She also revealed that the two countries will convene a high-level business conference in October to map out future trade and investment expansion.

Zhou said several factors sparked the sudden upsurge in Japanese interest, including the yen's appreciation which made domestic production increasingly uneconomic for many industries, lower consumption in Japan, China's improved investment climate and increasing wealth, and the global trend for Western multinational firms to switch their attention to the booming Asia-Pacific region.

"As far as we are concerned, the Japanese are definitely gearing up their presence in China for years of steady growth," Zhou said.

The MOFTEC official cited the example of the automobile industry, where leading Japanese manufacturers, after persisting for years with a sales-but-no-investment policy, or at most licensed their technology to Chinese plants, have suddenly begun pouring millions of dollars into joint ventures with a wide range of local firms.

"The Japanese are now everywhere," said a researcher with the State Economic Commission. "Even in the most barren areas, where the soil is very poor far from the sea, where even the people from the Chinese cities will not like to go even on business because life is very poor, the Japanese will be there looking for opportunities to do business."

This is in sharp contrast to the situation five years ago when Chu Baotai, then vice director of the Foreign Investment Bureau MOFTEC, was widely quoted as complaining about the sluggish pace of Japanese investment.

"The Japanese have been slow to take up the available opportunities," he said. "Some Japanese asked why should we use our own capital and technology to train, support and accommodate our competitors? This is a wrong attitude. Japanese companies in China can achieve profit levels on their products around 20 times higher than if they had stayed in Japan."

Even up to the end of 1991, Japan had provided only 7.7 percent of total foreign investment, compared with Hong Kong and Macao (more than 60 percent) and the United States (11.1 percent).

Japanese and Chinese calculations tend not to agree, but the Chinese estimate that last year Japanese companies invested more than 750 million dollars here, some 200 million dollars up on the previous year and the third-highest figure behind Hong Kong/Macao and Taiwan.

And in the first quarter of this year, MOFTEC says Japan committed, on paper at least, 6.52 billion dollars to 4,200 projects. Actual input was 180 percent higher than the same period of the year before, the ministry added.

The Japanese investment began in tourism and expanded outward to encompass textiles, electrical appliances, food and chemicals, and has now moved on to automobiles and motorcycles.

Liberalization of the service sector has begun to attract major supermarket operators. Two of the biggest, Yaohan and Daiei, already have opened large-scale joint ventures in several big cities.

Isetan opened its first department store in Shanghai last month and in December plans a second in the northern port of Tianjin.

Japanese trading firms are also establishing a strong presence throughout the country, and leading Japanese banks and securities firms are also taking advantage of new liberalization in the financial industry, especially given the booming demand for private development loans and the emergence of a fledgling stocks and bonds market.

Other growth sectors from now on are seen as agriculture, transportation, energy and communications as China makes its big push to catch up after some 40 years of ideologically induced backwardness.

Miyazawa Visits Quake-Damaged Okushiri Island

OW1407033493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0312 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Okushiri, Hokkaido, July 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday [14 July] morning inspected the earthquake-stricken island of Okushiri off southwestern Hokkaido. He flew to the island on a Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) helicopter from Hakodate and was briefed by Mayor Yukio Koshimori and commanding officers of the GSDF troops on relief work.

Koshimori said the most urgent needs were restoring the water supply and getting temporary housing for people who took refuge in the local community center.

Miyazawa told accompanying government officials to speed up transportation of water and food, and hasten road repair.

The prime minister then made a 90-minute inspection tour by helicopter and car, and he told reporters the government will make every possible effort to help relief work.

Okushiri, with a population of 4,700, was hit hard by Monday night's quake and tsunami. Officials say 60 residents died and 155 others are missing. Hundreds of GSDF troops and policemen continue to search for victims.

Takeshita's Prospects in 18 Jul Election Viewed

OW1407010793 Tokyo KYODO in English 2337 GMT 13 Jul 93

["News focus" by Mutsuo Fukushima]

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The lure of pork barrel politics is likely to see former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, a central figure in various corruption scandals, win his fight for political survival in Sunday's [18 July] general election.

Takeshita, 69, is vying with eight other candidates for the five seats in Shimane Prefecture on the Sea of Japan, in which 430,000 of the 590,000 eligible voters are expected to turn out.

"Voters in this corrupt constituency will reelect Takeshita, as they put priority on the benefits and favors he has given and may give to them, rather than the future of democracy in Japan," political commentator Masaya Ito said in an interview.

An executive of Takeshita's support group in Shimane said, "Though he will not be able to win the 100,000 votes he got in the previous election (in 1990), he will be able to secure reelection with some 80,000 ballots this time if he is lucky enough."

Tokyo Gakugei University Professor Nobuo Sakagami said, "Despite various scandals implicating Takeshita, voters are still aware of his political clout, as he had the government allocate budgets for so many pork barrel projects to this constituency in the past."

Sakagami said per capita construction budget outlays for Shimane became the highest in Japan after Takeshita swept to power in 1987. Voters reelected him in February 1990, even after the 1989 Recruit influence-peddling scandal forced him to quit as premier.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party decided to avoid the risk of tarnishing its embattled image further by denying him an LDP campaign ticket, a decision that forced him to run as an independent for the House of Representatives vote.

Takeshita was summoned last November and in February this year by parliamentary panels to testify on his reported roles in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, in which he was accused of using a gang boss's help in grabbing the prime ministership in 1987.

The allegation of a link between him and Susumu Ishii, the late don of Japan's third-largest crime syndicate, the Inagawakai, left many Japanese wondering how he was able to maneuver his way into the top echelon of Japanese politics.

In a recent rally in Shimane, Takeshita denied seeking the gang's help, telling supporters, "I am innocent and I want you to believe in my integrity." He had been the biggest vote-getter in the Shimane constituency in the last seven general elections.

Yoshito Sengoku, a Diet member of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), said, however, that Takeshita's rise to power showed his ability to curry favor with both ruling and opposition party legislators as well as voters "by disseminating not only money but also various assistance."

"In Japan's political landscape, your ascent to power depends on your ability to make others indebted to you without antagonizing anyone, rather than on what noble ideals you present to voters and fellow politicians," he said in an interview.

Sengoku, a lawyer-turned-politician who has led an SDP probe into a reported link between Takeshita and the gang boss, repeatedly pressed him to quit the Diet—in vain.

Takeshita began his political career as a member of Shimane Prefectural Assembly in 1951, at the age of 27. He made his debut in national politics at 34, entering the House of Representatives with the backing of LDP elder Eisaku Sato.

In 1971, when Sato was premier, he made Takeshita chief cabinet secretary. The media called him Sato's "favorite disciple," and Takeshita in turn called Sato "my teacher in politics."

After Sato stepped down, Takeshita vowed allegiance to his successor, Kakuei Tanaka, and was later named his chief spokesman. When Tanaka quit over alleged murky links with the construction industry, Takeshita announced Tanaka's resignation on his behalf.

But when Tanaka's clout as a backstage kingmaker waned after he had a stroke in 1985, Takeshita formed his own policy study group, Keiseikai, and recruited most of Tanaka's 141-member faction. When the dust settled, he emerged as the boss of a 113-member faction.

This angered Tanaka, and Takeshita reportedly sought to placate him on at least two occasions. On January 1, 1987, he visited Tanaka's home to exchange new year's greetings, but his car was turned back at the front gate.

Prosecutors have quoted key figures now on trial for breach of trust against Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin, a defunct trucking firm, as saying the takeover led to a smear campaign by the rightist group Nihon Kominto against Takeshita in 1987, when he was bidding for the premiership.

Outgoing Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone named Takeshita as his successor on October 20 and he became premier on November 6. He resigned, however, over his suspected role in the Recruit scandal, on April 25, 1989, after 534 days in office.

As details of the scam unraveled, Takeshita acknowledged accepting a total of 151 million yen from Recruit in various forms. "To restore the public's trust in the government, I have decided to step down," Takeshita said in announcing his resignation as premier.

Watanabe Backs Miyazawa's Reelection as Premier

OW1407131593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1118 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Wednesday Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa should be allowed to retain his premiership after Sunday's general election if the ruling Liberal Democratic Party maintains its preelection strength.

"As for the question of who the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) should vote for in selecting a prime minister (in a Diet vote to follow the election), that must be Mr. Miyazawa in accordance with ordinary rules," said the leader of the LDP's 67-member third-largest faction.

If the LDP can maintain the number of House of Representatives seats it held at the time of the dissolution of the lower chamber, LDP members would have to support Miyazawa, he said.

The LDP held a parliamentary strength of 227 seats after a total of 47 LDP rebels scurried to bolt the party after the lower chamber passed a no-confidence motion against the government of Miyazawa on June 18.

The split took place after the LDP came under a barrage of public criticism for its failure to legislate measures to clear up Japan's money-dominated politics despite its alleged implications in a string of bribery scandals.

Watanabe, once a powerful rival of Miyazawa in vying for the prime minister's job in 1991, assumed the role as deputy premier in the administration of Miyazawa until he quit the cabinet earlier this year for health problems.

"If he (Miyazawa) should say he will not assume the premiership, then other people might be appointed," Watanabe said. Miyazawa has repeatedly voiced his willingness to remain in power after the election and lead parliamentary efforts to carry through political reforms in that capacity.

LDP's Kajiyama Hints at Quitting Post

OW1407130993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0942 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Kurume, Fukuoka Pref., July 14 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party's heavyweight Seiroku Kajiyama hinted Wednesday [14 July] he may quit his LDP secretary general post after Sunday's general election and take the blame for the recent breakup of his party.

Kajiyama, who has served as Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's right-hand man since December 1992, dropped the hint at a news conference at a Kurume Hotel in Fukuoka Prefecture, where he is barnstorming for the House of Representatives election. "I am painfully aware of the degree of my responsibility, as the secretary general is responsible for directing party affairs," he said.

Fifty-four rebels who split from the LDP threaten to strip the party of its 38-year monopoly on power in the lower chamber. The mass exodus left the LDP with a preelection strength of 227.

However, Kajiyama said he might intervene in postelection political maneuverings to build a framework for a new government to be formed immediately after the election. "I would not be able to say I lived up to my responsibility without carrying out the mission of building up a next government and (laying the groundwork for) the future of our party," he said.

He stopped short of urging Miyazawa to step down after the election to take the blame for the party's split. Whether Miyazawa should resign or not "is the issue he himself should decide by pondering what the public wants," he said.

He said that what is at stake in the election is whether or not the LDP can secure 200 seats in the 511-member lower chamber. Kajiyama quickly added that despite his own somber prediction of sluggish LDP performances, the party will still strive to grab more seats than the 227 seats it was left with after the party split.

He said the party still wants to cooperate with the Japan New Party [JNP] and Sakigake (Harbinger)—two new conservative parties expected to fare well in the election—in running a new government the LDP might form after the election.

"If their policies fall into the permissible scope of policies (similar to those of the LDP), we can imagine various methods of linking up with, forming a coalition or concluding an arrangement to coordinate mutual policies in some fields," he said.

The JNP and Sakigake announced last week that they would not form a coalition with the scandal-tainted LDP because such an alliance might drive voters away.

Established Parties 'Trying To Woo' New Parties

OW1407000393 Tokyo KYODO in English 2323 GMT 13 Jul 93

[News focus By Tadashi Matsumoto]

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and five opposition parties are trying to woo two new conservative parties to form a coalition with a governing majority after the July 18 general election. But the Japan New Party and Sakigake (Harbinger) which could well have a swing vote to end the 38-year LDP monopoly on power by forming a non-LDP coalition distanced themselves from both the LDP and a bloc of the five opposition parties which aim at forming a non-LDP coalition.

The JNP and Sakigake, an LDP breakaway, announced Saturday [10 July] they "will not forge a coalition with the LDP, which scrapped political reform," and that they have reached an accord to form a joint parliamentary group after the election. The agreement said "the two parties will exercise influence for the time being from outside a government" formed after the election.

JNP leader Morihiro Hosokawa said, "We will take a third path." The JNP had no seats in the House of Representatives, but is fielding 56 candidates, while Sakigake, whose preelection force was 10, is fielding 16 candidates.

Hosokawa, a former House of Councillors member from the LDP and former Kumamoto governor, formed the JNP in May of last year.

Both the LDP and the five noncommunist opposition parties will need support from the JNP and Sakigake to form a coalition government with a governing majority in the powerful lower house after the election, political analysts say.

The five opposition parties are the Social Democratic Party [of Japan, SDPJ] (SDP), Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), the United Social Democratic Party (USDP) and Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party).

The LDP had 275 seats in the lower house when Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa dissolved it on June 18 after a no-confidence vote against his government passed, with the help of LDP rebels, for his failure to enact political reform during the Diet session.

The preelection strength of the LDP has since been reduced to 227 because 48 lower house LDP members bolted the party. LDP defectors formed Shinseito and Sakigake late last month.

LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama said the party has set a target of garnering about 230 seats, well below a simple majority of 256 seats in the 511-seat lower house.

The five opposition parties agreed on June 27 to cooperate in the election in the hope of forming a possible coalition after the election and are expected to gain more than 200 seats, but short of a majority, political analysts say.

The agreement of the five parties states they will continue the current basic policies of the state such as foreign affairs and defense. But the five parties have not agreed on whom they will nominate as a candidate for prime minister

In case no one secures a majority in the first round election to nominate the prime minister in the lower house at the special Diet session to be convened within 30 days after the election, a runoff between the two top contenders will he held.

The Japanese Communist Party, which held 16 seats when the lower house was dissolved, is critical of not only the scandal-ridden LDP but also the five opposition parties.

Miyazawa said he will ask the JNP and Sakigake to support LDP policies even though the two parties have refused to form coalitions with the LDP in the case of a serious setback in the coming general election.

"If they (the JNP and Sakigake) rule out any coalition with us...even if a coalition might be impossible, there could be still various types of cooperation and responses (between the LDP and the two parties)," the premier said.

Miyazawa said that the LDP would not hand over power to a coalition of the opposition if the LDP emerges from the July 18 vote with the largest number of seats and without a majority.

SDP chairman Sadao Yamahana said it is still possible that the JNP and Sakigake will join a non-LDP coalition, saying the "(JNP- Sakigake) agreement leaves free hand."

Meanwhile, Miyazawa has stepped up verbal attacks on the largest opposition party, the SDP, apparently hoping to drive a wedge into the five-party bloc. The SDP will have no significance as a political party if it accepts LDP policies to form a coalition, Miyazawa said.

Miyazawa pressed Yamahana in a TV program on Sunday to change SDP policies.

"Does your party change its own thinking and policies to take power?" he asked. "The people will cast their vote after seeing party policies. It's problematic (for the SDP) to change its policies after the election. Please change its policies during the campaign period."

Rei Shiratori, a professor of political science of Tokai University, said it is most likely that the LDP will form a minority government.

In case the five-party opposition bloc succeeds in forming a coalition government, it will be a short-lived

one because they differ in basic policies and there will be another general election within six months, Shiratori said.

The SDP maintains the Self-Defense Forces' current military capability exceeds the level of power necessary for self-defense. Last year, the SDP opposed a government-proposed bill to allow overseas dispatch of SDF personnel on UN peacekeeping mission, while Komeito and the DSP voted for the bill.

The government and the LDP needed the support from Komeito and the DSP to pass the bill in the opposition-controlled upper house.

Poll: Support Rates for LDP, SDP Plunge

OW1407100693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Public support rates for both the nation's ruling party and the largest opposition party dropped sharply prior to Sunday's election for the House of Representatives, according to a KYODO News Service survey compiled by Wednesday [14 July].

The poll, conducted on about 110,000 eligible voters last weekend, found that those among the 81,377 pollees responding who backed the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) accounted for 32.1 percent, a 14 percent plunge from a previous survey for the general election in February 1990.

The support rate for the Social Democratic Party (SDP) halved to 10.4 percent from 23.8 percent in the previous election, the survey said.

Three newly formed political parties garnered a combined support rate of 23 percent, presaging the collapse of the political system which has revolved around the LDP and the SDP since 1955.

Specifically, Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), a splinter party from the LDP headed by former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, had a support rate of 10.3 percent, the third largest figure among all political parties.

The Japan New Party led by former Kumamoto Gov. Morihiro Hosokawa earned 9.5 percent, while Sakigake [Harbinger], another small breakaway party from the LDP formed by 10 reform-minded legislators, got 3.0 percent, the poll said.

Among other political parties, the No. 2 opposition Komeito and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) slightly increased their support rates from the 1990 election survey.

Komeito had a support rate of 5.2 percent, up from 4.7 percent, and the JCP 3.4 percent, up from 3.2 percent.

Pollees backing the Democratic Socialist Party accounted for 2.2 percent, down from 3.0 percent, while those supporting the minor opposition United Social Democratic Party accounted for 0.8 percent, marginally down from 0.9 percent.

The rate of respondents who did not support any particular party increased to 12.4 percent from 10.1 percent in the 1990 poll.

GSDF Official Indicted for Receiving Bribes

OW1207222993 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] In connection with a bid-rigging case over a construction contract on a Ground Self-Defense Forces [GSDF] base, Okayama Prefectural Police Headquarters indicted a GSDF member in charge of auditing accounts at the SDF's Nihonbara Base in Okayama Prefecture for misappropriation of public funds. He is alleged to have received a bribe from the bid winners.

Ten contract executives have already been indicted for bid-rigging in connection with an asbestos removal project at Nihonbara Base in Nagi, Okayama Prefecture. Investigators have found that the official appropriated 59.5 million yen [Y] as a contract price, despite the fact that the actual contract price was Y58 million.

According to the investigation, the official, a 42-year-old major, allegedly received Y1 million in two personal computers and Y500,000 in cash from last September's bid winners. He has reportedly told investigators that the personal computers were used in his office and that the Y500,000 was spent to cover expenses for a ceremony cerebrating the base's founding.

Nihonbara Base's public information section said that although it has no information on the case, it will ascertain whether the allegation is true.

MOF Names International Affairs Vice Minister

OW0907164893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 9 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi has appointed Kosuke Nakahira new vice finance minister for international affairs to succeed outgoing Tadao Chino, ministry officials said Friday [9 July]. The personnel reshuffle was approved by the cabinet on Friday and will be effective next Tuesday, the officials said.

Nakahira, currently chief of the International Finance Bureau, will be succeeded by Takatoshi Kato, who is a senior bureau official. Nahahira, 54, a graduate of the University of Tokyo, joined the Finance Ministry in 1963 and has been chief of the bureau since last July.

Government Agencies Urged To Cut Expenses

OW1207103593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0940 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—The Finance Ministry urged government ministries and agencies Monday [12 July] to cut expenses in the face of the expected budgetary shortfalls as a result of a prolonged business slump. The ministry made the request at a meeting of chief secretaries of ministries and agencies prior to premilinary budgeting of the state budget for fiscal 1994, which begins next April.

The move is part of the Finance Ministry's efforts to avoid issuing deficit-financing bonds, while striving to curb government debt, ministry officials said.

The government's tax and nontax revenues for fiscal 1992 fell short of the revised budget by 1.5 trillion yen, marking the second budgetary shortfall since the end of World War II. Lower corporate and personal income tax contributed to a 3.19 trillion yen shortage from the initial target of 54.44 trillion yen.

North Korea

South Attempt to 'Abduct' North Ship Denounced

SK1307144993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Station commentator Chong Pong-kil's commentary: "Premeditated Provocation"]

[Text] The South Korean warmongers perpetrated a grave military provocation against us on 12 July. That afternoon three of the puppet armed forces' combatant ships based at Taechong Island infiltrated deep into our side's territorial waters after crossing the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] on the sea. They headed for the North near Mahap Island off Chaejangbi, Ongjin County, South Hwanghae Province in battle formation and attempted to besiege and abduct one of our peaceful cargo ships that was on a routine voyage.

It is clear that if Korean People's Army [KPA] naval patrol boats had not made an emergency sortie to the spot, the situation would have become more aggravated.

This brigandish act was committed in broad daylight and is an undisguised provocation against us. With this reckless and military provocation, we have come to realize the irrational behavior of the South Korean ruling bunch, who are straining the situation in our country with a frenzy for North-South confrontation.

After coming to power under the signboard of a civilian government, the incumbent South Korean rulers gave lip service on many occasions to dialogue, improvement of North-South relations, peaceful reunification, and so forth. However, their remarks were merely hypocritical and empty words.

The South Korean rulers ignored our 10-point program of great unity of the whole country, which is an appeal for jointly advancing toward the road of reunification hand in hand by reconciling and uniting with each other. They refused our proposal for the exchange of special envoys, which is a realistic and reasonable negotiation formula that will enable us to make a breakthrough for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and for the peaceful reunification of the nation. Thus, they are advancing along the road of internal strife—the road of overall confrontation with us.

The South Korean rulers and military heads slandered us whenever they found an opportunity and unhesitatingly made absurd remarks about maintaining full-scale combat readiness, preparations for an emergency, launching military countermeasures, and so forth, thus inciting a war fever.

The South Korean warmongers fired large-caliber machine guns at our side of the Demilitarized Zone in the MDL and conducted ground-air war exercises in areas near the DMZ aimed at northward aggression. They ran amok more wildly than ever before with military provocation rackets against us.

The brigandish act to abduct our peaceful cargo ship by illegally infiltrating a group of combatant ships deep in our side's territorial waters in the West Sea is a premeditated and preplanned reckless act committed as an extension of such confrontation and war maneuvers.

We cannot help but pay special attention to the fact that the reckless military provocation was conducted right after the U.S. President's visit to South Korea and on the brink of the DPRK-U.S. talks in Geneva.

In his meeting with the U.S. President, the South Korean ruler repeatedly mentioned the North's nonexistent nuclear problem and humiliatingly asked for his favor, talking about proper countermeasures, a system of ROK-U.S. coexistence, sanctions, and so on.

His rash act can be described as unmanly, traitorous behavior without basic political sense, removed from national dignity and consciousness. If he had just a bit of national consciousness, he could not run so wild and persistently to slay fellow countrymen by using a fiction fabricated by the international reactionary forces to crush [apsal] us.

The South Korean ruling forces must be very irritated with and uneasy about the DPRK-U.S. joint declaration, which put an end to the hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States and prepared the foundation for a fundamental solution to the nuclear problem. They are trying frantically to put the brakes on the DPRK-U.S. talks in order to secure their political power, without caring about the entire nation's interests.

Everyone can guess that the recent military provocation based on this evil intention was also aimed at straining the situation artificially. Under the "civilian" veil, the

current South Korean rulers follow the preceding military dictators in slaying fellow countrymen in collusion with outside forces. They are even worse than their predecessors.

However, they must clearly know that their traitorous maneuvers can never work. Although we are making efforts for peace and peaceful reunification of the country, we will always sternly cope with those who defy our dignity.

If the South Korean warmongers dare to adhere continuously to military provocations, ignoring our repeated warning, they will be made to pay dearly for it and definitely be held responsible for all consequences arising therefrom.

Daily Criticizes South Action

SK1407021193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0024 GMT 14 Jul 93

[NODONG SINMUN 14 Jul commentary: "They Should Not Run Wild Recklessly"]

[Text] On 12 July, the South Korean puppets illegally infiltrated a group of combat ships deep into our side's territorial waters in the West Sea. The puppet's three combat ships, which infiltrated deep into our side's territorial waters in broad daylight after crossing over the sea's Military Demarcation Line [MDL], attempted to besiege and abduct our peaceful cargo ships that were on a routine voyage.

Because of the South Korean puppet army's open military provocation committed in broad daylight under the impure attempt to abduct our peaceful cargo ships, the security of our crew was gravely threatened.

When a navy patrol ship of the Korean People's Army [KPA] immediately appeared there, the rascals fled hurriedly southward.

This is not the first military provocation by the South Korean puppet army.

The South Korean puppet army, which has conducted war provocations [puljangnan] while firing guns and canons inside the Demilitarized Zone, fired a large-caliber machine gun shootings at our side some time ago. The security of our side's civil police personnel who were on duty was gravely threatened.

The frequent military provocations by the South Korean puppet army are premeditated and deliberate provocations to drive the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.

Our nation is now demanding that the South Korean authorities give up their past confrontational policy, stop the activities of antagonizing and provoking fellow countrymen, and come to the road of national great unity.

What direction, however, do the current rulers who profess themselves to be the civilian-controlled government take?

As has been exposed, the current South Korean rulers have ignored our proposal that the nation be united and have joined hands to take a road to peaceful reunification. While babbling about the nonexistent nuclear threat of the North, they are raving that they cannot shake hands with a partner who possesses nuclear weapons. They are rushing along the road of confrontation and war [taegyolgwa chonjaengui kil].

They conducted the large-scale 93 Ulchi war exercise against us. This is a clear example that shows that they are rushing along the road of confrontation and war.

Currently mock war exercises reeking of gunpowder are being held everyday in South Korea to hurt the fellow countrymen.

Recently, the South Korean ruler talked about provocation from the North. He also said that peace can be maintained only when there is strength, that preparations must be made for an emergency, and so on, thus instilling confrontation.

At the same time, heads of the puppet military babbled that complete combat readiness should be maintained. While saying that they cannot shake hands with fellow countrymen, they are conspiring with outside forces to cook up plots to hurt the nation.

This was apparent in the South Korean rulers act of putting on all sorts of coquettish airs before the U.S. President who made a junket to South Korea and their request that he chastise and carry out sanctions against fellow countrymen. This shows that South Korean rulers are a uniquely ugly, treacherous group who attempt to hurt fellow countrymen by borrowing the swords of outside forces.

If the South Korean antinational force loses their mind and indulges in military provocations and continues to depend on outside forces, to drive the situation on the Korean peninsula into a more acute situation, this will only invite outside forces to fish in troubled waters and will only bring about calamity and disaster of a nuclear war on our nation.

The indiscriminate imprudent act of the South Korean rulers is making the whole nation fume with anger. We treasure peace but we will by no means forgive the provokers. If the South Korean warmongers dare to provoke [kondurida] us this will lead to the road of their self-destruction.

Forces of the two sides are committing military provocation at a place where they tensely face each other across the Military Demarcation Line. Therefore, the South Korean rulers should reflect upon the grave results it will bring about and stop committing rash and thoughtless acts.

Daily Warns South on 'Provocations'

SK1407044893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 14 Jul 93

["Don't Act Rashly"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—The South Korean rulers must refrain from harebrained acts, pondering over the possible grave consequences of the military provocations committed at a place where the Armed Forces of the two sides are standing in strained confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line, warns NODONG SINMUN today.

The analyst says:

The South Korean puppets who had never ceased rifle and gun firing in the Demilitarised Zone infiltrated a group of combatant ships deep into the territorial waters of our side on July 12. This was a deliberate and premeditated provocation intended to drive the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war.

The present rulers of South Korea, while advocating "civilian government," are racing headlong along the road of confrontation and war, paying no heed to the North's proposal to join hands for achieving peaceful reunification through the unity of the nation, and are brewing plots to do harm to fellow countrymen in league with outside forces. This is well illustrated by the fact that the South Korean rulers, dancing attendance on the U.S. President during his South Korean trip, asked him for "reprisals" and "sanctions" against fellow countrymen.

Should the South Korean anti-national forces, bereft of reason, engage themselves in military provocations and lead the situation of the Korean peninsula to a more acute phase, depending on outside forces, it will result in allowing outside forces to fish in troubled waters and bringing the holocaust of nuclear war on the head of our nation.

We treasure peace. But we will never pardon the provocateurs.

If the South Korean war-thirsty elements dare provoke us, it will end in their own self-destruction.

Daily Denounces ROK 'Crackdown' on Labor Movement

SK1007053993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 10 Jul 93

["'Sixth Republic's' Fascist Suppression Restored"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 10 (KCNA)—Hundreds of fascist prosecutors and policemen of South Korea on July 7 ransacked the office of the General Federation of Hyundai Trade Unions (Hyonchongnyon) and are on the run to arrest the acting chairman of Hyonchongnyon and trade union chairmen "on the suspicion of intervention by third parties."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this means that the present rulers of South Korea have taken over the method of crackdown on the labour movement from the military fascist dictatorship of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics."

The analyst notes:

The present "regime" of South Korea which made its appearance with the mottoes of "civilian government" and "reform" has waxed quite eloquent that it would build a "society where the working people would be well off." But, nothing has changed in the conditions of the workers.

What the unionized workers of the Hyundai Business Group are demanding in their strikes is wage hike, the reinstatement of the dismissed workers, the abolition of the reactionary labour policy and evil labour act, etc.

But the South Korean authorities are suppressing the workers, branding this elementary demand of theirs as "illegal." This is an outrage and crime which can be committed only by the truculent fascist dictators.

They are now stretching their suppressive claws to Hyonchongnyon with outcries over the "intervention of third parties" and a "revolutionary socialist organization." This is a plot designed to justify their suppression.

The present "regime" of South Korea must promptly stop the crackdown on the labour movement.

KCNA Denounces South's Imprisonment of Hwang In-o

SK1007043093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 10 Jul 93

["Unjustifiable 'Ruling'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 10 (KCNA)—The "Seoul high court" recently imposed life imprisonment on Hwang In-o and a prison term of 13 years and suspension of qualification for ten years on his younger brother Hwang In-uk who had been arrested on the charge of involvement in the "case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea", according to South Korean radio reports.

It announced that Hwang In-o was sentenced to life imprisonment on the charge of the violation of the "National Security Law" because he had been active "on the order of the North". It is totally groundless and a drama directed by the "Security Planning Board."

Hwang In-o is guiltless. He had never come to the North and never received "spy education" from the North. His brother either had no connection with the North and there is no ground to put him on trial.

Earlier, the South Korean authorities imposed capital punishment on Kim Nak-chung, who was chairman of the People's Party, vice-chairman of the Institute of Peaceful Reunification and advisor to the Council for Democratic Reforms and Social Progress (Minsahyop), branding him as "a spy of the North". This shows that they have gone to extremes in arresting and murdering pro-reunification patriotic figures and in their anti-DPRK smear campaign.

South Leader Attempts To Isolate, 'Stifle' North

SK1407054893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] According to broadcast reports from Seoul, Kim Yong-sam, during his talks with the U.S. President who made a junket to South Korea on 10 and 11 July, noisily clamored about our nonexistent nuclear issue.

Kim Yong-sam made abusive remarks that North Korea should dissipate the nuclear suspicions before it is too late and that the international community should come up with appropriate countermeasures if North Korea does not assume a positive attitude toward resolving the nuclear issue.

This is a foolish and thoughtless act by him designed to impose international pressure on and sanctions against us by all means based on the strength of the big powers. This is also an antinational criminal act designed to make his fellow countrymen victims of outside forces at any cost. By so doing, Kim Yong-sam clearly revealed his filthy color as a flunkeyist traitor.

The South Korean ruler is recklessly running wild to isolate and stifle [korip malsal] us by using the North's nuclear issue as a pretext. This is no more than an empty day dream.

The South Korean authorities should discard their anachronistic confrontation commotions and attempts to slander us.

South Students Said To Oppose Clinton Visit

SK1307113193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] According to a radio report from Seoul, approximately 500 students of the South Cholla Provincial District Federation of General Student Councils in Kwangju demonstrated in front of the Kwangju American Center on 11 July against U.S. President Clinton's visit to Seoul. They also demanded that rice markets not be opened.

The demonstrators denounced the police for flagrantly wounding approximately 30 students and called on them to apology.

The radio reported: A great number of the riot police were deployed around the Kwangju American Center when the students staged demonstrations that day.

Workers Denounce Crackdown on South Counterparts

SK1307105393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Workers in Pyongyang met today to denounce the South Korean authorities' suppression of workers.

At the meeting Yi Chu-hyon, chairman of the Pyongyang municipal committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions, and other speakers expressed militant support and encouragement to workers of South Korean companies under the Hyundai Business Group who are waging an undaunted struggle for the right to existence and democracy under the leadership of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Hyundai Business Group (Hyonchongnyon) these days.

The speakers denounced the South Korean ruling quarters for openly suppressing the workers' righteous struggle by mobilizing repressive tools, far from taking a measure to meet their demand and interests.

The violent repression of Hyonchongnyon by the authorities under unreasonable pretexts is intended to prevent the Hyundai workers' struggle from spreading to other companies by breaking it up and, furthermore, to totally stifle the labour movement, they said.

They called upon the South Korean workers to valiantly wage a massive joint struggle in solidarity with people of different strata, upholding the banner of the struggle, not yielding to the fascist crackdown of the authorities.

Unification Group Views DPRK-U.S. Statement

SK1207103993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 12 (KCNA)—The Asian Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification published a statement on July 2 on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people.

There is neither excuse nor ground for the United States to continue to keep its troops in South Korea after the end of the cold war, the statement said, and went on: "We are sure that the DPRK-USA joint statement released some time ago will put an end to the hostile relations between the two countries and contribute to realizing the denuclearization of the Korean peninusla as well as to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

"We strongly demand that the United States stop its hostile Korean policy and moves to stifle the system as the DPRK and the United States declared through the joint statement. "The Asian Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification demands the South

Korean authorities to see the present realities clearly, act with discretion and pull down at once the concrete wall, a disgrace of the nation."

Angolan President's Special Envoy Arrives 10 Jul

SK1107090693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 11 (KCNA)—Kundi Paihama, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola, who is a special envoy of the Angolan president and his entourage arrived here Saturday.

The guests were met at the airport by Choe Yong-yim, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and Chang Song-kil, vice-minister of foreign affairs.

The DPRK Government arranged a party for the special envoy and his entourage Saturday.

Meets Foreign Minister

SK1207110693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 12 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, met and had a friendly talk with Kundi Paihama, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola and a special envoy of the Angolan president, and his entourage who paid a courtesy call on him Monday.

Ethiopian Envoy Departs Pyongyang 10 Jul

SK1307041693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Ethiopian Ambassador to DPRK Fantahun Haile Mikael returned home on 10 July by plane after being summoned.

RENMIN RIBAO Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang

SK1307054093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—The delegation of PEOPLE'S DAILY of China led by Deputy Chief Editor Li Renchen arrived here Monday.

The delegation was met at the airport by So Tong-pom, deputy chief editor of NODONG SINMUN, and a councillor of the Chinese Embassy in Korea.

Journalist Delegation Departs for PRC

SK1007113193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 10 (KCNA)—A delegation of Korean jounalists of distinguished services headed by Yi Chong-ki, editor-in-chief of NODONG CHONGYON left here today for a visit to China.

It was seen off at the airport by Choe Yong-sam, first vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union, other officials concerned and the councillor of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang.

Premier Sends Greetings to Mongolian Counterpart

SK1407011193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 11 Jul 93

[Text] Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, has sent a congratulatory message to Mongolian Prime Minister Puntsagiyn Jasray on the occasion of the 72d anniversary of Mongolian people's revolution.

The message expressed a firm conviction that the friendly relations between the two countries would further develop, and wished him great success in his responsible work.

Daily Lauds Party, State Guidance on Economy

SK1007021193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0010 GMT 7 Jul 93

[NODONG SINMUN 7 July special article: "The Political Leadership and the Centralized and Planned Guidance for Economy Are the Basic Duties of the Party and the State"]

[Text] In his immortal and classical work "Abuse of Socialism Is Intolerable" the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il profoundly said that the political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance of the economy in a socialist society are the basic duties of the working-class party and the state.

One of the basic duties in the socialist economic management is to determine how to carry out the political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance for the socialist economy. The success of socialist economic construction and destiny of the socialist system depends on solving this problem successfully.

The party's political leadership of the socialist economy means leading the popular masses to formulate a correct line and policy that reflect their independent demands and interests and to implement them thoroughly. The party's political leadership is also a lifeline of the socialist economic management. Only under the party's leadership can socialist construction be victoriously advanced and achieved.

The state's centralized and planned guidance of the socialist economy means that the state should control the socialist economy extensively and that it should guide and manage the economy in a planned and uniform manner based on the initiative of the broad popular masses. The socialist economy is a centralized economy. It is an organism that can be moved and developed by the state's uniformed and planned guidance.

In a socialist society in which the means of production belong to society, all sectors and units of the national economy are closely related as one economic system according to their common interests and goals. Under these circumstances, we must thoroughly guarantee the state's powerful centralized and uniform guidance. This is a basic condition for fully meeting the independent demands and interests of the popular masses, who are masters of the means of production.

The party's political leadership and the state's centralized and planned guidance of the economy are closely related. We can carry out the state's centralized and planned guidance satisfactorily only if we strengthen the party's political leadership. The state's centralized and planned guidance is very important in firmly guaranteeing the party's political leadership.

The working-class party and the state must vigorously adhere to and carry out the political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance of the economic guidance. Under these circumstances, they can consolidate and develop the socialist economy in conformity with their intrinsic demands.

Political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance of the economy become basic duties of the party and the state. This is because the party and the state are responsible for taking care of the working popular masses. The issue of the people's life can be determined according to the social system.

In capitalist societies the state is not responsible for the working popular masses' lives nor does it assume responsibility for their lives. Moreover, in capitalist societies, in which private ownership of the means of production is rampant and in which society is based on bourgeois individualism, the principle of "the rich get ever richer and the poor get poorer" applies. The standard of living of the working popular masses is therefore getting worse and worse. The distinction between rich and poor and between the exploiting classes and exploited classes is growing wider.

On the other hand, in a socialist society where the popular masses become genuine masters of the society and where society's every aspect serves the people, the party and the state are totally responsible for the people's material and cultural life.

To satisfactorily fulfill their mission and duty, the party and the state must hasten improvement in economic operation and management in order to enhance the people's standard of living based on the increasing rise in production. This can be realized by the party's and the state's political leadership and centralized and planned guidance for the economy.

The party's political leadership is the powerful plan enabling the popular masses to further accelerate socialist economic construction by highly displaying their revolutionary spirit and creative abilities in their economic activities.

The state's centralized and planned guidance for the socialist economy is an important condition for developing the economy in a planned and proportionate manner and for constantly increasing production.

The working-class party and the state must strengthen the political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance for the economy to inspire the people's revolutionary spirit and creative positiveness; to consolidate and develop the socialist economic system; and to rapidly increase production. Based on this, the people's independent and creative life can be guaranteed materially and satisfactorily.

For the working-class party and the state to abandon their guidance of the economy is to avoid their responsibility for taking total care of the popular masses' life.

Implementing the rationale behind the political leadership and the centralized and planned guidance of the economy becomes one of the basic duties of the party and the state and this is also related to the fact that it is an important guarantee for highly displaying the essential superiority of the socialist economy. The method of economic guidance by the party and state determine how the superiority of the socialist economy is displayed.

Party leadership and the state's centralized and planned guidance are basic to the vitality of the socialist economy and contribute to its superiority. The socialist economy must be managed and operated by the party's political leadership and the state's centralized and planned guidance so that it can be rapidly developed in conformity with its nature.

The party's political leadership is a firm guarantee for highly displaying the creative abilities of the popular masses in economic activities. The superiority of the socialist economy depends on the full display of the abundant creation of the popular masses who are its masters.

The creative abilities of the popular masses can be displayed more highly when they are firmly united as one socio-political organism based on their collective outlook on life. It is the party that can make the popular masses unite as a socio-political organism with powerful creative ability. Only under party leadership can they become conscious and organized so that they can be linked to the leader in a blood line, and strengthen their indomitable might.

Only when the party's political leadership is strengthened can the popular masses be strongly equipped with

the leader's revolutionary idea and be firmly united as one around the party and the leader. By so doing, they can vigorously accelerate the socialist economic construction by displaying their might and wisdom more highly.

To develop the economy in a planned manner under the state's uniform guidance is a basic requirement for highly displaying the superiority of the socialist economic system. The high speed of constant development of the socialist economy can be firmly guaranteed when we manage and operate the economy under the state's centralized, planned guidance.

The state must manage the economy in a uniform manner to formulate plans to develop the national economy in conformity with the intent and demands of the popular masses. It can properly organize and command the execution of the plans. Also, it can rapidly develop the economy in a planned and proportionate manner by strengthening the state's planned regulation.

We should manage and operate the economy in a planned manner under the unified guidance of the state so that we can rationally utilize the country's labor resources and natural resources and realize production, distribution, accumulation, and consumption in a planned manner, thereby extending the reproduction of socialism on a large scale. In so doing, we can rapidly develop the country's science and technology and rationally realize the link between science and technology and production so that we may enhance the efficiency of production. Therefore, for a socialist economy, political leadership and planned guidance of the party and the state are important factors ensuring the exaltation of the superiority of socialist system.

How the party and the state realize the guidance for the economy in socialist society can vary between countries depending upon the specific reality and the demand of the revolution's development. However, under no circumstances should it weaken the function of guiding the economy. An economy minus the guidance of the working class party and state is not a socialist economy. Society not based on socialist economy cannot be called a socialist society, nor can we expect such a society to display superiority.

Our party's practical experience shows that if we ensure the party committee's collective guidance in economic management, implement the mass line, give priority to political work in all types of work, and establish the revolutionary work method and people-oriented work style among the functionaries, we can manage and operate the economy in conformity with the nature of socialist society and give full play to its superiority.

Political guidance and centrallly-controlled planned guidance for the economy are basic duties of the party and the state because it is the fundamental demand to resolutely crush [tanhohui chitpusida] all the obstructive maneuvers of the imperialists and reactionaries and to defend and adhere to the socialist planned economy. The imperialists and reactionaries vilify and slander the socialist planned economy, saying that low productivity, hampered technological development, and discouraged producer creativity result from a state-run economy. By saying so, they viciously maneuver to convert the socialist planned economy into a capitalist market economy. The capitalist market economy, no matter how hard they may try to embellish it, cannot hide its antipeople exploiting nature of bringing exploitation, oppression, unemployment, and poverty to the popular masses.

In countries where the socialist planned economy has been transformed into a capitalist market economy by traitors to socialism, socialist ownership has become capitalist ownership, the economy is in a state of confusion, and the production decline, mass unemployment, shortage of goods, and skyrocketing commodity prices are undermining the people's living standard more and more with each passing day. At the same time, the country's economy is turning into a subjugated economy.

As reality shows, rejection of guidance for the economy by the working class party and state and abolishment of socialist ownership is nothing but a means to revive the capitalist system of exploitation. Therefore, the only way to defend, adhere to, and give full play to the superiority of the socialist planned economy is to intensify the state's centrally-controlled planned guidance under the party's leadership.

We should resolutely crush [tanhohui chitpusida] all sorts of maneuvers of the imperialists and traitors of socialism to convert the socialist planned economy into the capitalist market economy, and further intensify the party's political leadership and the state's unified guidance.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il put forth the idea that the political leadership and the centrally-controlled planned guidance for the economy is a basic duty of the party in socialist society and the state is of great significance in defending, adhering to, and giving full play to the superiority of the socialist economic system. The significance of this idea lies in the fact that it elucidated the way to adhere to the revolutionary principle of the working class in socialist economic management and the way to manage and operate the economy scientifically and rationally in conformity with the nature of socialist system.

Intensifying the party's political leadership and the state's unified guidance for the economy is the natural demand of the socialist economy. Therefore, how the working class party and state conduct guidance of the socialist economy is the fundamental problem connected with the fate of socialist system.

With the elucidation of the idea that political leadership and centrally-controlled, planned guidance for the economy are basic duties of the party and the state, a

true way has opened which enables us to defend, adhere to, and give full play to the superiority of the socialist system.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thank-You Message to Soldiers

SK1207110393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a message of thanks to the soldiers of Sin Il-nam Unit of the Korean People's Security Forces who distinguished themselves in the Pyongyang-Kangdong road project.

"In response to the party's intention to build the Pyongyang-Kangdong road at the highest level the soldiers have widened the road of nearly 40 kilometres and successfully constructed the Sungmun Tunnel, the Cholbong Tunnel, a flyover and many other structures in a short period," the message noted.

It expressed the belief that the soldiers would live up to the expectation of the party by remaking major roads high-speed and modern ones through the movement for creating a "speed of general advance of our-style socialism" andn performing greater feats in new projects.

Kumsong Tideland Dike Construction Completed

SK1307151293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Tideland builders of Korea completed Kumsong tideland dike construction on the threshold of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War (July 27).

The great leader President Kim Il-song sent thanks to the soldiers and workers involved in the construction.

The nature-remaking work is designed to obtain 3,300 hectares of arable land by building a dike cutting across the sea dozens of ri from Chungak workers' district to Kumsong-ri in Onchon County, South Pyongan Province.

With the completion of the construction, the area of the arable land has enlarged and the map of the country has changed.

The constructors increased the utility rate of transport means, introduced new building methods, built 60 metres of dam a day at maximum, fabricated a part of the dike on the sea and blocked the 100 metre wide remaining gap of the dike with this pre-fab part.

South Korea

Investigations on Arms Deal Irregularities Continue

Dealers Admit To Bribing Officials

SK1307071193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—Some of the arms dealers and defense contractors admitted that they had given bribes to former defense officials, including Ex-Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, a prosecution spokesman said Tuesday. On the basis of the material referred to by the Board of Audit and Inspection, however, the prosecution would be able to prove that they had paid kickbacks to former defense officials, the spokesman said.

The Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office continued questioning 12 officials of 11 arms dealers and defense contractors on Tuesday about whether they had given kickbacks in return for the supply of their products in connection with the Yulgok force improvement project. Among those interrogated were President Chong Ui-song of Haksan Industrial Co., Vice President Yi Tu-kwan of Koverseas Ltd., President Yi Chong-tae of Cheil Trading Co. and Former President Ka Kap-song of Korea Terminal Co.

On the basis of the interrogations of these people, the prosecution would summon Former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, former air force chief of staff Han Chu-sok and other former defense officials suspected of having taken bribes for questioning on Wednesday at the earliest, the spokesman said. Koverseas, which arranged the supply of K-1 tank gunner's sight, GPTTS [expansion unknown], to the Army, had lobbied for the selection of McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s F/A-18 as the next-generation fighter of the Air Force.

1st Army Commander General Removed

SK1407094493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0915 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The planned removal of Gen. Cho Nam-pung from the duty as commander of the First Army is due to his involvement in irregularities over Yulgok arms purchases, it was confirmed on Wednesday. "From the beginning, Gen. Cho was among those subject to disciplinary actions for Yulgok irregularities. But, we had given the Defense Ministry a time to handle his case cautiously in view of the sensitivity of his duty," said Hwang Yong-ha, secretary general of the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI).

He said a BAI members committee meeting had decided to ask for the Defense Ministry to take a disciplinary action against the general. Cho was known to have received a large amount of bribes from arms dealers in connection with weapons introduction during his service as commander of the Defense Security Command from

1989 to 1990. On Tuesday [13 July], the government designated Lt. Gen. Yi Chun, director of the Defense Logistics Headquarters, as commander of the First Amry in place of Cho.

New Army Commander Appointed

SK1307120493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1148 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—The government on Tuesday designated Lt. Gen. Yi Chun, director of the Defense Logistics Headquarters, as commanding general of the First Army. He is set to be promoted to full general on assignment to the new duty. He will replace Gen. Cho Nam-pung as First Army commander. The reason for Cho's removal was not immediately known.

Second Assistant Defense Minister Pak Ung, who the Board of Audit and Inspection said was involved in Yulgok irregularities, is to be removed. Pak will be succeeded by An Pyong-kil, deputy director of the Defense Science Institute.

Yi Chun's post as director of the Defense Logistics Headquarters will be taken over by Maj. Gen. Yi Su-ik, now deputy Army chief of staff for logistics. He will be promoted to Lt. General. The designees will be formally appointed subject to cabinet approval on July 15.

Prosecution To Begin Summons of Dealers

SK1407094293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0903 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The prosecution summoned a younger brother of former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku along with a dozen of arms dealers and manufacturers Wednesday for inquiry into alleged irregularities of military buildup program called the Yulgok project. The Supreme Public Prosecutors' office plans to finish its investigation of alleged bribers by Thursday [15 July] and start from Friday to summon and question four of the six former military officials accused by the Board of Audit and Inspection [BAI] last week.

The prosecution has already confirmed that the remaining two had received bribes. Further investigation of them, therefore, was not needed, an official at the prosecutor's office said.

The prosecution asked Yi Hun, Ex-Defense Minister Yi's brother, how part of the money an arms manufacturer gave to Yi Chong-ku was deposited in his bank accounts. The prosecution also questioned a high official of Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd. on the exact amount of money Samsung allegedly gave to former Air Force Chief of Staff Han Chu-sok in relation to its supply of military helicopter parts. The prosecution is also examining 39 accounts of 36 branches of Seoul-based commercial banks to secure evidence supporting the alleged bribery charges of Ex-Defense Ministers Yi Chong-ku and Yi Sang-hun, former Senior Presidential Secretary Kim Chong-whi and former Air Force Chief of Staff Han Chu-sok.

U.S.-DPRK Talks Begin in Geneva 14 Jul

SK1407100293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0900 GMT 14 Jul 93

[By correspondents Chi Chong-hak and Yi Pyong-sun from Geneva]

[Text] The second stage of U.S.-North Korea high-level talks, which will be a watershed in resolving the North Korean nuclear issue, began in the U.S. Mission in Geneva at 1600 Korean local time today [0700 GMT]. Twelve delegates from the U.S. side headed by Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state for political and military affairs, and 11 delegates from the North Korean side led by Kang Sok-chu, first vice foreign minister, attended the talks.

If today's talks are prolonged, they may continue until after midnight. It has not been decided it the results of talks will be officially announced. Regarding North Korea's remaining in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as an established fact, the U.S. side will strongly urge North Korea to comply with the Nuclear Safeguards Accords with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], including special inspections of the two nuclear facilities [haeksisol] in Yongbyon.

On the other hand, the North Korean side is expected to raise the issue of IAEA impartiality again as a counteraction [pangyokyong] against U.S. pressure for acceptance of nuclear inspections. An official relevant to the talks said that another round of talks will probably be held on 16 July and that if the U.S. side decides that productive results, such as North Korea's acceptance of nuclear inspection, are achieved during the current talks, the talks may proceed to the third stage. Thus, there is a great possibility that during the next stage of talks, the issue of improving U.S.-North Korea relations will be discussed along with the issue of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

DPRK Hopes for 'Good Results'

SK1307133293 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1220 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Editorial Report] Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean at 1220 GMT on 13 July begins a report on the upcoming U.S.-DPRK talks in Geneva with an audio exchange of remarks from Geneva by Geneva-based KBS reporter Chi Chong-ha and Kim Chol-sun, spokesman for the North Korean delegation to the talks. Chi is heard asking Kim: How different do you think the upycoming [U.S.-North Korea] Geneva talks are from the New York talks?

The voice of Kim Chol-sun, spokesman for North Korean delegation in Geneva, is heard faintly, with his reply given in Korean subtitles: The sides will try to

achieve good results according to the agreement in the DPRK-U.S. joint statement. A KBS correspondent in the studio continues with his report by saying: The North Korean spokesman also said that the North Korean side is striving for a conclusion in any form during the Geneva talks, thus showing a different attitude than during the New York talks.

This spokesman stressed that although he cannot reveal anything before the talks, he will make the contents of talks public according to their results, thus showing some flexibility. If the first round of talks [between the United States and North Korea] in the U.S. Mission in Geneva fail to reach a conclusion, a second round of talks will be held in the North Korean Mission on 16 July.

However, the U.S. side is demanding that North Korea accept overall nuclear inspections promptly during the current talks. In the meantime, it is also anticipated that North Korea may use more delaying tactics for as long as it considers necessary, while continuing to quarrel about the fairness of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

DPRK Said To Want U.S. Nuclear Transfer

SK1407040793 Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 15 Jul 93 pp 60-62

[Article by correspondent Nam Mun-hui: "North Korea Demands Transfer of U.S. Atomic Power Generation Technology in Return for Giving Up Nuclear Development Program"]

[Text] During the U.S.-North Korea high-level talks held in New York, North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu made an epochal proposal to U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci regarding keeping open or closing nuclear reprocessing facilities in Yongbyon, SISA JOURNAL reveals through its intensive news coverage activities.

According to an official at home, North Korean delegate Kang Sok-chu proposed to U.S. delegate Gallucci that "if the United States offers light-water atomic reactor technology to North Korea, North Korea will 'melt down' its nuclear reprocessing facilities in Yongbyon. This official noted that the U.S. delegate "did not give a clear answer" to the North Korean proposal. However, the majority of experts at home observed that if future U.S.-North Korea talks proceed satisfactorily, the possibility is very high that the United States will accept the proposal. If this actually happens, the nuclear situation on the Korean peninsula concerning the North Korean nuclear issue will take on a totally new aspect.

Since early last year, North Korean authorities have occasionally made remarks revealing the intention to barter the Yongbyon nuclear reprocessing facilities for light-water atomic reactor technology. However, this is the first time a North Korean delegate proposed this directly to the U.S. delegate while sitting face to face, which gives it great significance. The situation at home and abroad regarding the North Korean nuclear issue was relatively relaxed last year. However, tensions have been heightened more than ever since North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. But at this time of heightened tensions, the North Korean delegate said very strongly that North Korea would melt down its nuclear reprocessing facilities [if the United States provides light-water atomic reactor technology]. This indeed attracts public attention.

The rumor that the North Korean delegate made this proposal has been secretly spread among a handful of relevant government officials. The SISA JOURNAL has recently obtained this intelligence from a reliable source in the government. In addition, from relevant officials in the Foreign Ministry—the main office in charge of U.S.-North Korea talks—and from an official in the West who is familiar with U.S. Government sources, the SISA JOURNAL confirmed that North Korea actually made this proposal. A relevant working-level official in the Foreign Ministry said: "Because the content of the U.S.-North Korea talks is very sensitive, I cannot personally confirm this, but coverage of the report is accurate." Thus, he indirectly admitted that the report was true.

Clarification During 10 June Talks

The atmosphere in which the North Korean delegate made such a proposal and a more detailed story concerning the U.S. reaction to it have been confirmed by an official in the West. He revealed that although he is not clear on when and where the North Korean proposal was put forward, the proposal was certainly made during "off the record discussions about what each side wants." Meaningful dialogue began when the delegate from each side opened his heart to the other [hyunggumul tolho notta] at a luncheon on 10 June at which only the two of them were present during the third round of the four rounds of talks in New York. The luncheon was held in the UN Plaza Hotel in the neighborhood of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Overall, the possibility that the North Korean delegate made this proposal during this luncheon is very high.

According to the source, the North Korean delegate raised but did not force the issue because he "wisely" considered it premature to raise the issue in a full-fledged manner in light of progress in talks. Because the North Korean side did not raise the issue formally, the U.S. side gave no clear response. However, the source observed: "If the discussion of pending issues, including the nuclear inspection issue, make progress and North Korea presents its demands through normal channels such as the North-South Nuclear Control Committee or the Science-Technology Exchange Agreement within the North-South Economic Exchange Committee, the United States may provide North Korea with help."

This proposal put forward by the North Korean delegate at the U.S.-North Korea talks, is causing delicate ripples within our government. Concerned government officials generally agree that it is too early to discuss this issue in

a full-fledged manner at this stage in talks between the United States and North Korea. The Foreign Ministry, the main ministry concerned, is taking care not to discuss this issue at this stage because it may shake the very foundations of its approach to the North Korean nuclear issue.

A working official in charge at the Foreign Ministry said: "The remark made by the North Korean delegate could mean either that North Korea truly wants a nuclear reactor for power generation or that North Korea intends to use it as a smoke-screen to avoid the pressure of the international community against the nuclear reprocessing facilities in Yongbyon. In either case, it is a very unrealistic proposal which can hardly be realized at this stage."

On the other hand, the National Unification Board and many of the nuclear engineering scholars think that if the U.S.-North Korean talks progress constructively, the issue of technological transfer for a light-water nuclear reactor can ultimately become the kernel of discussion. Therefore, they suggest that the government set up measures for this. Professor Kwak Tae-hwan of the U.S. Eastern Kentucky University (International Political Science), on a brief visit to Seoul, said: "The North Korean nuclear card will lose its potency with progress in U.S.-North Korean talks. Therefore, North Korea will ask the United States, at the final stage of talks, to transfer technology for the light-water nuclear reactor, which North Korea urgently needs to overcome the shortage of power supply, in return for its abandonment of its nuclear card." A National Unification Board official noted: "Now that the North Korean delegate has raised this matter, what North Korea ultimately wants from the talks has become clear. The ultimate objective of the North Korean nuclear card is the light-water nuclear reactor."

North Korea, which is suffering from a shortage of power, has pushed ahead with the construction of nuclear power plants as a shortcut to overcoming its crisis. However, North Korea's nuclear power plant construction project suffered a serious setback with the failure of the plan to build the Sinpo nuclear power plant due to the suspension of Soviet assistance in 1989. The North Korean plan was to build four light-water nuclear reactors of 440 MW class on the beach of Sinpo, North Hamgyong Province to supply approximately 15 percent of the total North Korean power supply. However, when Gorbachev came into power, the Soviet Union suspended technological assistance citing internal circumstances, and dealt this project a serious blow. A source said that North Korea's abrupt undertaking of the construction of the Kumgangsan Dam, which in turn caused the South to build the Peace Dam, may be inherently linked to the failure to build the Sinpo nuclear power plant construction project.

Nuclear Reactors Have Been Developed. However, Their Safety Is a Serious Issue

The strong point of a nuclear power plant is that once it is built, it does not cost much to operate it. However, it costs approximately $1 billion to build one unit. Therefore, it is impossible for North Korea to build nuclear power plants on its own. Only the United States and Japan can invest such an enormous amount of money. Before it withdrew from the NPT, North Korea had proposed on many occasions that if it were supplied with technologies for light-water reactors, it would abandon its reprocessing facilities. This proposal was received favorably by the ROK, the United States, Japan, and other countries concerned.

Some domestic experts note that unlike last year, the only two parties at nuclear negotiations are the United States and North Korea and that the two countries may strike such a deal without ROK involvement. They also say that the United States has no reason to reject the North Korean proposal if U.S.-North Korean dialogue proceeds successfully. Unlike heavy-water nuclear reactors which can easily produce plutonium, light-water reactors are commercial reactors used only to generate power. Therefore, even during the Cold War era, excepting sales of critical technologies, the East and the West did not rigidly restrict sales of light-water reactors from each other. Therefore, the United States has no reason to adamantly reject such a proposal. Coincidentally, the nuclear industry is already in decline in the United States.

Some in the ROK Government are trying to map out countermeasures against possible negotiations on the issue of the light-water reactor at U.S.-North Korean talks. They say that it is necessary for the ROK to do something now about this possibility for the sake of the future. They also say that "it is desirable to form a consortium in which ROK business companies provide public work technologies, Japan provides facilities for generating power, and the United States provides capital."

They also say that the ROK Government must take the initiative in handling the plan to provide nuclear power plant technologies to North Korea. They insist that the ROK Government must do so not only because the ROK will benefit from this plan on a short term but also because providing nuclear power plant technologies to North Korea is the best way to make North Korea abandon its plan to develop nuclear weapons and will eventually be an opportunity to build a basis for peaceful use of nuclear energy by the North abd South.

The several research nuclear reactors which North Korea now possesses are reportedly very dangerous. North Korea built its own nuclear reactor by remodeling an outmoded French reactor and a Soviet reactor which caused the Chernobyl disaster. Therefore, its safety emerges as a serious issue. Nuclear engineers point out the urgency of providing North Korea with the technology to improve the safety of North Korean reactors.

They insist that once these technologies are provided, we will know the status of North Korea's nuclear technology, the transparency of North Korea's nuclear program will be ensured, and as a result, separate nuclear inspections will not be necessary.

Peaceful exchange of nuclear energy between South and North Korea has been regarded as the most practical way to balance their present abnormal structure of supply and demand of energy under the situation of division. South Korea, which has less coal and hydroelectric power than North Korea and whose main energy source is oil and atomic energy, depends on foreign countries for its energy supply. North Korea depends on hydroelectric and thermal power for its source of energy under the principle of self-reliance. It is now facing an energy shortage caused by its developing industrialization. Looking for ways to make up for South and North Korea's abnormal energy supply structure, nuclear scientists suggested building an atomic power plant in the Demilitarized Zone for both sides to use and suggested that South Korea borrow electricity from North Korea in the summertime, when North Korea usually has surplus electricity, and repay it in winter.

Yi Un-chol, professor in the Nuclear Engineering Department of the Seoul National University, insisted: "In order to prepare a foundation for balancing the structure of South and North Korea's supply and demand of energy, it is necessary to provide North Korea with technology for atomic power generation."

According to a government source, North Korea began being interested in introducing technology for producing light-water reactors from Western countries because of the Chinese Government's strong recommendation since North Korea's failure to build the Sinpo atomic power plant. In October 1991, when President Kim Il-song visited China, China proposed that it would find a route to provide North Korea with Western countries' atomic power technology if North Korea abandons nuclear weapons development. The U.S. Government learned this through a U.S. worldwide atomic power generation company; our government learned it from an ROK plutocrat.

The period from the end of 1991 through early 1992 was also marked for an important situational change in the nuclear issue between South and North Korea. A series of epochal actions—such as President Bush's September 1991 announcement on the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea, the 31 December 1991 South-North joint declaration on denuclearization, and the effectuation of the joint declaration on 25 February 1992—occurred in this period. Some experts at home and abroad believed that North Korea had abandoned its nuclear weapons development, and this view was convincing at that time. A former high-ranking official deeply involved in the Sixth Republic's unification policy making said: "At that time, the government's analysis was that North Korea had attempted nuclear weapons development until the end of 1991 but had given up its will for nuclear development by early 1992."

Government Once Considers Providing North Korea With Technology

North Korea launched an offensive with its alleged peaceful nuclear policy on an unprecedentedly large scale in early 1992. In April 1992 it announced it was joining the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which it had delayed for a long time. Following this, it allowed the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspection team to visit North Korea, thus beginning to open up its nuclear facilities, which had aroused suspicions, to Western countries.

At this very time, the North Korean authorities have made remarks in succession stating that if the United States, Japan and other Western countries offer technology on light-water atomic reactors to North Korea, it will give up its nuclear reprocessing facilities at Yongbyon. In an interview with the WASHINGTON TIMES in April last year, President Kim Il-song said that "if the United States offers technology on the light-water atomic reactor, North Korea will completely remove nuclear suspicions that the United States harbors. That same month in a meeting with a delegation attending the summit conference for global peace led by Mun Son-myong, head of the Unification Church, President Kim explained that the plan for the development of Sinpo atomic power station has been canceled. He said that "North Korea will build 5 to 7 atomic power stations, including the Sinpo station, in the future with technological support from the West."

Following President Kim Il-song's remarks, a North Korean government official again made a formal proposal on this issue to Hans Blix, director-general of the IAEA, who paid an official visit to North Korea in May. The remarks made by Yi Chol, North Korean Ambassador to an international organization in Geneva on 10 June, and an unofficial proposal made by Kim Tal-hyon, deputy premier of the North Korean Administration Council, who visited South Korea in July, contain similar proposals.

It is indicated that both ROK and U.S. Governments affirmatively reviewed the proposal that has been consistently put forward by North Korea. On 11 June 1992, a conference of relevant government offices and agencies was held, presided over by Kong No-myong, chairman of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee, and participated in by relevant officials from the Foreign Ministry, Defense Ministry and Unification Board. A reply was adopted at this conference, stating that "if the North Korean intention to give up its nuclear reprocessing facilities is clear, there is no reason that our side cannot offer technology on atomic energy to North Korea." At the same time, Richard Solomon, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, revealed that "North Korea suggested that in order to remove the Western countries' concerns over nuclear

weapons development, the fuel for atomic power generation can be shifted from plutonium to uranium. The United States is satisfied with such a forward-looking attitude by North Korea."

The consensus, however, between the North and South of Korea and between the United States and North Korea has disappeared in a moment owing to strong measures, namely the implementation of IAEA's special inspection, and to North Korea's reaction to this, namely withdrawal from the NPT. Nevertheless, such consensus is now being revived.

Minister: Nuclear 'Transparency' Needed

SK1407022093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] New York, July 13 (YONHAP) [dateline as received]—South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and National Unification Minister Han Wan-sang said Tuesday there could not be any progress in inter-Korean relations without guarantee of "transparency" of North Korea's nuclear program. Han made the remark at a dinner hosted by South Korean Ambassador to the United Nations Yu Chong-ha and attended by some U.N. diplomats including Ambassadors Madeleine Albright of the United States and Chen Jian of China.

"We cannot expect any practical progress of inter-Korean relations until transparency of the nuclear issue is secured so that we can always confirm North Korea is not developing nuclear weapons," Han said. Han is scheduled to meet with senior U.S. officials and attend a forum during a seven-day visit to the United States.

In order to secure its transparency, North Korea should completely return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], allow nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and agree to mutual nuclear inspection with South Korea on the basis of the Joint Declaration for Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, Han said. "Fulfillment of the first two conditions will provide a momentum for improvement in the inter-Korean relations while that of all three conditions will enable the relations to make practical progress including economic cooperation," he said.

Han emphasized that the North Korean nuclear problem should be solved through diplomatic means not through use of force. Han said, however, he opposes any move by North Korea to raise political issues before resolving the nuclear issue at the U.S.-North Korea high-level talks in Geneva.

North Korea announced its decision to withdraw from the NPT months ago, arousing international suspision that it might be trying to develop nuclear weapons. It has since suspended that decision.

Japan's Vice Foreign Minister Arrives 12 Jul

SK1307021893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0036 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada arrived in here Monday [July 12] afternoon to attend the 27th annual Law of the Sea Conference. Owada, father of the just-married crown princess, Masako, is scheduled to deliver a keynote speech at the conference to be held at [Sheraton] Walker Hill Hotel Tuesday morning.

Meets With Foreign Minister

SK1407045293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0301 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada called on South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu Wednesday with evaluation of last week's G-7 [Group of Seven] Summit in Tokyo. Han expressed his country's appreciation for the G-7 leaders' attention to North Korea's nuclear problem, referring to the group's political statement urging Pyongyang to fully return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and to accept international inspection on its suspected facilities.

Han and Owada agreed the two countries should continue to consult on North Korea's nuclear issue, Foreign Ministry officials here said. Owada explained details to the G-7's decision to extend 3 billion U.S. dollars in economic assistance to Russia and to establish a liaison office to coordinate further aid, they said. The two men did not address Tuesday's arrest of Japanese Fuji Television Co. correspondent Masato Shinohara on espionage charges or any pending bilateral issues, according to the officials.

Gives Miyazawa Message to President

SK1407085893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0838 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada called on President Kim Yong-sam at Chongwadae [presidential offices] Wednesday [14 July] and handed him a message from Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. Miyazawa, in his message, briefed President Kim on the results of the summit meeting in Tokyo last week of the Group of Seven [G-7] advanced nations, informed sources said. Earlier Owada visited Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and explained on the results of the G-7 Summit and exchanged views on situation on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, including North Korea's nuclear problem.

Investigation of Japanese Journalist Continues

SK1407085193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0836 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The prosucution continued to question Japan's Fuji Television Seoul

Bureau Chief Masato Shinohara on his suspected espionage activities Wednesday. The Seoul district prosecutors' office was said to focus its investigation on why he made 170 slides of Korean and U.S. military installations in Korea and what he did with the slides.

The prosecution also questioned him if he obtained military secrets from officials other than Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol and whether he passed the secrets to third countries. The prosecution arrested Shinohara Tuesday night on charges of violating the law on the protection of military secrets. Shinohara passed 27 military-related materials including 'secret' and 'confidential' items to two military attaches to Japanese Embassy in Korea, according to the prosecution.

Journalist Denies Spy Allegations

SK1407045093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The arrest on Tuesday [13 July] of Japan's Fuji Television Seoul Bureau Chief Masato Shinohara on suspicion of "espionage activity" is seen as "an inevitable outcome" of a prudent government probe. Korean authorities have obviously carried out the arrest after taking possible repercussion into consideration.

First of all, his information gathering could hardly be regarded as newsmen's proper activity. It was tantamount to "military espionage activity" and therefore he must be dealt with under domestic law, observers say.

The arrest may cause diplomatic friction with Japan, but the government must have thought it would be more important to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents than to face such a risk from the viewpoint of national security. Moreover, a lenient dealing with the Shinohara case simply because he is a foreign correspondent would raise an impartiality issue in the press circle here in view of the recent arrest of a vernacular newspaper reporter on a libel charge.

Between Septmber 1972 and July 1980 when the country was under the authoritarian rule of military governments, either foreign correspondents were deported or foreign press offices were closed down on eight occasions. But Shinohara is the first foreign correspondent to be arrested here on suspicion of violating a domestic law. This tells how seriously the civilian government of President Kim Yong-sam is dealing with his case.

Shinohara's arrest was not due to his reporting but due to his espionage activity, and this is expected to cause a verbal war when he is tried in the domestic court. Sources said the prosecution had decided to arrest him right after it wound up its interrogation on Friday last week but had put it off until Tuesday because of U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit here over the weekend.

According to the prosecution, Shinohara handed over 27 military documents, including eight "secret" and "confidential" items, to Army and Air Force Attaches Cols. Takashi Fukuyama and Kazuyuki Fukuyama of the Japanese Embassy here in much the same manner as espionage agents usually do, immediately after he obtained them from Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol of the Defense Intelligence Headquarters. The classified information he gave to the Japanese Embassy was related to the combat readiness of the South Korean Army and the Air Force and its leakage thus had direct influence on national security, the prosecution said.

Shinohara, being taken by law enforcement officials on Tuesday, told reporters, "I must be dealt with by Korean law because the thing happened in Korea. But I did it purely for my research purpose, never in spying activity at all." "On receiving the classified information from Lt. Cmdr. Ko, I didn't give him any money," Shinohara said. "He asked me to help him in finding a job after his discharge from the Navy."

Shonohara will face a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison as he is charged with violating the military secrets protection law. With the Shinohara case serving as a good lesson, the government is reviewing the military secrets protection system to take new measures for a tightened military security network.

Tokyo Concerned With Arrest

SK1407085693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0828 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada expressed Tokyo's official concern Wednesday at the arrest of one of its journalists in South Korea, calling it part of efforts to protect its citizens abroad. Owada, meeting with his Seoul counterpart Hong Sun-yong, said he realized the incident is being handled "cautiously and cooly" strictly according to legal procedures, Chu Kyu-ho, director of Foreign Ministry's Northeast Asian Division I, said after sitting in at the one-hour meeting.

"He said that Tokyo, however, is taking note of the incident as part of efforts to protect its citizens living abroad," Chu said. Masato Shinohara, bureau chief of Fuji Television Co. in Seoul, was arrested Tuesday [13 July] for espionage activities after obtaining military secrets from a South Korean naval officer.

Owada, in Seoul to attend a law of the sea conference, had met earlier in the day with Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and President Kim Yong-sam but did not raise this issue with them. Hong affirmed that the investigation on Shinohara is proceeding in line with legal principles and that the matter is not open to intervention by the administrative branch, Chu said. He promised that the Foreign Ministry will continue to watch how the situation develops and provide information to Tokyo when necessary.

The two vice foreign ministers discussed resolution to the unhappy past between the two countries dating back to 35 years of Japan's colonial rule over Korea before

World War II. Stressing that he is personally doing the utmost as a person in a position of responsibility to solve the problem, Owada asked Seoul to do its part in handling South Korea's public animosity toward the situation.

Owada took special time to deny reports that Japan opposed indefinite extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) at last week's G-7 [Group of Seven] summit with the intension to acquire nuclear capability. He explained that Japan in principle supports strengthening and extension of the NPT regime but believes nuclear countries should bear the responsibility of removing and scrapping the atomic weapons they already own.

The vice foreign minister stressed that the NPT regime has so far been biasedly applied to non-nuclear countries. But the opposition in no way reflect Tokyo's intention to acquire nuclear capability, Owada was quoted as saying.

Journalist Said To Receive 50 Documents

SK1307115093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1110 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—The Seoul district prosecutor's office placed under arrest Masato Shinohara, Japan's Fuji Television Seoul bureau chief, on charges of violating the law on the protection of military secrets Tuesday afternoon. A prosecution official said Shinohara is suspected of having engaged in espionage activities.

The official said prosecution probe showed he obtained a total of 50 military-related materials including 14 classified items from Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ko Yong-chol of the Defense Intelligence Headquarters and passed 27 of them including eight "secret" and "confidential" items to two military attaches of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul. The two military attaches were identified as Air Force Col. Kazuyuki Fukuyama and Army Col. Takashi Fukuyama. The items Shinohara delivered to them included "State of Battle Deployment of Air Force Planes," "State of the Deployment of Army Divisions" and "Diagram of Air Force Radar Range."

Also for three years beginning August 1990, Shinohara reglarly obtained from Ko such information bulletins as "Daily Information Summary," "General Trend of North Korea" and "International Situation" which were published by the Defense Intelligence Headquarters on a reguiar basis. He then reported the items to Col. Takashi Fukuyama during meetings of Japanese correspondents held at the Japanese Embassy.

The prosecution official said it couldn't be determined whether or not the military-related items handed to the two Japanese officers were in turn delivered to the Japanese Embassy or the Tokyo government. Air Force Col. Fukuyama returned to Japan in July 1991. Army Col. Fukuyama left for Tokyo on last June 8 soon after probe was launched into the Japanese correspondent, he said.

Shinohara was also found to have taken photos of Korean and U.S. military installations with a telephoto-lens-set camera. Some 170 slides of such photos were seized, the official said.

Main PKO Contingent To Fly to Somalia 21 Jul

SK1407094093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0858 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The recent large-scale air attack by U.N. Forces on the command center of a warlord in Somalia has alarmed the Defense Ministry as it was preparing to send the main party of an Army Engineer Battalion to the African country on next Wednesday [21 July] as part of U.N. Peacekeeping Operations (PKO). In particular, the beating to death by Somalis on Monday of four Western journalists covering the damage of the U.N. attack has prompted the ministry to worry about media's plan to have their reporters accompany the main party of the U.N. PKO contingent to Somalia.

The ministry asked media on Wednesday [14 July] to shelve their plan to send reporters to Somalia until the situation there improves so that the safety of their reporting activity can be fully guaranted. On June 29, a 60-man advance party of the PKO contingent arrived at Balad, 30 kilometers north of Somalia's capital of Mogadishu, and they are now busy transporting equipment and supplies that the main party will use to Balad.

The equipment and supplies were carried by the 15,000-ton Panamanian-flag evermore to Mogadishu on June 15, and between last Saturday and Tuesday [10-13 July] soldiers of the advance party unloaded them from the ship. The advance party, led by Major Chong Chang-su, is using U.N.-provided 25 40-ton trailers, 14 semi-trailers, one container trailer, two cranes and two fork-lifts in transporting the equipment and supplies from Mogadishu and Balad.

The 192-man main contingent, led by Lieut. Col. Chang Chong-hun, will fly from the Songnam Military airport on Wednesday evening next week and get to Mogadishu on Thursday morning local time. They will stay in barracks of the nearby Italian PKO contingent until their own barracks are completed.

The Korean PKO contingent in Somalia, codenamed Sangnoksu (evergreen tree) Unit, is under the control of the U.N. Peacekeeping Operations in Somalia (UNOSOM) II and will engage in repair and maintenance of the 390-kilometer road linking Balad to the city of Beledweyne near the Ethiopian border for one year. Officials of the Defense and Foreign Ministries say the Korean Army engineers are safe because their area of operations is far from the area where the U.N. troops are

waging a punitive campaign against the guerrilla warlord, Mohamed Farah Aidid, and because they are armed with machine guns in a three-phase defense line.

In the worst case, they are set to withdraw to the headquarters of UNOSOM II or to the fortified Italian paratrooper base, according to them. For direct communication with their families back home, the Defense Ministry will open satellite telephone lines linking the base of the Korean PKO contingent in Somalia to South Korea for use by contingent members only. The Defense Ministry says it is taking every possible steps to ensure the troops in Somalia will carry out their assigned missions safely and successfully.

Editorial: G-7 Talks Fail To Meet Expectations

SK1007095493 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 10 Jul 93 p 2

[Editorial: "The Success of Tokyo Summit Talks Falls Short of Expectations"]

[Text] Even before the talks were held, many people had anticipated that the 19th summit talks of the group of seven industrialized countries would end in a feast of words. A U.S. magazine did not hesitate to say that the leaders of those industrialized countries would return home with empty hands after stripping themselves bare as an unprecedentedly, politically barren group before thousands of reporters.

These summit talks which have been held every year since 1975 ended as merely annual events which issue only ambiguous joint statements without solving the difficult problems of international economy. The people, therefore, have good reasons not to expect a great success from the talks. In addition, most of the leaders, including Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa who lost the no-confidence vote, are going through political difficulties. It is common that the leaders who have weak political foundation fail to take bold action.

The Tokyo summit talks this time produced the usual political and economic declarations. The political declaration, first of all, touched on all the difficult problems the world faces today such as the nuclear nonproliferation matter including North Korea's nuclear issue, the former Yugoslavia's ethnic dispute, and the issue of strengthening the role of the United Nations. The declaration, however, failed to provide specific ways to solve these problems. Let us take as an example the first item of the declaration—the issue of strengthening the role of the United Nations. The heads of the industrialized countries only agreed that "the role of the United Nations should be further strengthened in conformity with the changing international environment". The declaration, however, failed to mention elevating Japan and Germany to permanent membership in the UN Security Council, an issue which has been recently raised as part of strengthening the role of the United Nations. This may be because some industrialized countries were opposed to it.

Regarding the nuclear nonproliferation issue, while the heads of the industrialized countries touched on North Korea's nuclear issue under negotiation between North Korea and the United States, they were apathetic to the issue of those countries that possess nuclear weapons but have not joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The economic declaration, a key agenda item of the talks, also failed to meet our expectations, just as the political declaration. The heads of the industrialized countries reaffirmed that they would settle the Uruguay Round negotiation, in which we have a stake, some time this year. They only set a goal for making efforts to resolve the issues including textile goods, electronic products, and forestry goods. We, therefore, cannot say that real progress was made in the economic issue.

The United States made a concession in the textile field. If developing countries are opposed to opening their markets, it is difficult to see a satisfactory result despite the concession by the United States. Regarding rice market opening which we have been opposed to, Japan remains opposed to it and the European Community as well has not been showing any sign of reducing its agricultural subsidies.

In the trade talks held just before the Tokyo summit talks, the United States, the EC, Japan, and Canada agreed to repeal mutual tariffs on eight items including medicines. This makes it possible for us to pin a higher expectation on the settlement of the Uruguay Round negotiation some time this year. Attention should be drawn to the fact that the heads of the industrialized countries had agreed three times in the past to settle the Uruguay Round negotiation some time this year and that these agreements, however, had not been put into practice. This also makes us doubt that Uruguay Round negotiation will be settled some time this year.

The summit talks are supposed to solve the world's difficult economic problems through the cooperation of economic policies among the industrialized countries. Therefore, if the results of such summit talks cannot meet our expectations, no one can refute the allegation that the summit talks are useless.

President Stresses Diligence, Publicizing Policies

SK1407044193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0218 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam made a special plea to ministry spokesmen Wednesday to effectively publicize government policies with a promise of due reward. "The spokesman is the representative of his ministry," said Kim in breakfast talks with 33 spokesmen of government offices, "let known [as received] what the people should know but keep national secrets strictly confidential."

A minister's appearance before the National Assembly is one of the best opportunity for he or she to tell the people

of his office's policies, Kim emphasized, "use the opportunity well to let the people know." Citing his principle of rewarding merits and punishing faults, the president promised he will always encourage hard-working government workers through promotions and appointments. "The problems lie with those who don't work," said Kim, "I won't chastise government workers who make mistakes in the process of hard work."

BAI Chairman: $62 Million Wasted in Purchase

SK1407004193 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] Yi Hoe-chang, chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection [BAI], said about 50 billion won (approximately $62 million) was wasted in the purchase of UH 60 helicopters by paying more than market prices. Answering lawmakers' questions at the National Assembly Defense Committee on the Yulgok arms build-up project, Yi argued that he came across the incident in the course of inspecting the multi-billion dollar project. The Assembly ended the 12-day special session yesterday.

In the meeting he said the inspection authority had already filed suits against those involved in the defense military procurement project on charges of their possibly taking bribes from military businesses. He indicated that the BAI may launch an investigation of Former President No Tae-u in connection with the next generation fighter purchase.

He said, "The BAI asked the United States to send detailed materials in connection with the matter. And I think the BAI will be able to embark on the investigation of the former president after receiving them if it is needed," he said.

He added that the possible BAI's inspection of the ex-president, if carried out in reality, will focus on clarifying whether his selection of the next generation fighter planes was proper or not Yi, however, rebuffed suggestions that the BAI would investigate Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, saying, "There are no suspicions about Kwon although the BAI tried to dig out possible involvement."

Kwon was the chief of the committee for the project when he served concurrently as vice defense minister. "But the former defense ministers Yi Chong-ku and Yi Sang-hun were found to have received money in the process of selecting the fighter planes," he said. He said the former presidents' political funds cannot be the subject of the BAI inspection. "The BAI is only entitled to investigate if the fund is related to the national coffers or irregularities requiring investigation," he said.

He said the BAI had urged the Defense Ministry to take measures to guarantee the fairness of the Yulgok project, including making public the use of budget. As to use of the so-called "defense donation" he disclosed that the former Defense Ministry had diverted 5.5 billion won into building the Army Hall out of the total 65 billion won raised to March this year.

Daily Views Rumored Chongwadae-BAI Conflicts

SK1407065993 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 12 Jul 93 p 2

[Article by correspondent Kang Chol-won: ""Uneasy Balance' Between the President and the Director of the Board of Audit and Inspection"]

[Text] Early last week, a few days before Yi Hoe-chang, director of the Board of Audit and Inspection [BAI], announced the results of the BAI's probe into the Yulgok Project, rumors suddenly emerged from the Chongwadae presidential office and the BAI that BAI Director Yi Hoe-chang would tender his resignation. The rumors went: When Director Yi had a private meeting with President Kim Yong-sam at Chongwadae, he told the president that the BAI would "question Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae." President Kim opposed the idea, saying, "How can one question the incumbent defense minister?" Then, Director Yi said, "I will tender my resignation."

Another rumor said: Director Yi did not tender his resignation at that time but mailed his letter of resignation to Chongwadae later. Both Chongwadae and the BAI were incredulous and said "those rumors are completely unfounded." The rumors that Director Yi tendered his resignation reflect the delicate atmosphere between Chongwadae and the BAI with regard to the BAI's plan to question former presidents.

President Kim is a politician with an outstanding driving force. Director Yi is a man who sticks firmly to his convictions and views. These are positive assessments of their characters. If we were to speak bluntly, however, both may be said to be insistent and obstinate.

After serving as opposition party president for a long time, President Kim became the president of the ruling party as a result of a merger of three parties. He, then became the successor to the president [No Tae-u] after defeating the majority faction in a fierce power struggle.

Director Yi served as chairman of the Central Election Management Committee in 1989, during which a by-election in Tonghae [in Kangwon Province] was conducted. When the election campaign was going on, he referred Democratic Liberal Party President No Tae-u, Party for Peace and Democracy President Kim Tae-chung, and Reunification Democratic Party President Kim Yong-sam and all of the candidates from the three parties to the prosecution on charges of illegal election campaigning. Dissatisfied with the prosecution's lukewarm investigation of the charges, he resigned from his post.

Both President Kim and Director Yi are strong-minded. Therefore, people are interested in how President Kim, the most responsible person for state affairs, and

Director Yi, who heads an independent agency under the Constitution even though he is appointed by the president, have gotten along so far. People around these people say that they seem to have managed to narrowly avoid conflicts.

The first crisis came in late May. Meeting privately with President Kim to give a mid-term report on the BAI's investigation of the Yulgok Project, Yi told the president that, if necessary, the BAI was planning to question Former Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

President Kim kept silent and did not answer. At that time, no charges had been found strong enough to question the two former presidents. Therefore, President Kim seemed to feel relieved.

Another crisis arose soon afterwards. The BAI obtained an internal document of the Defense Ministry which indicated that Former President No Tae-u had ordered the replacement of the F-18 with the F-16 as the next-generation fighter. The BAI judged the document to be very reliable. Furthermore, during a questioning session on 26 June, Former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku stated that Former President No Tae-u had instructed the replacement.

Around that time, Director Yi had a private meeting with President Kim. It is certain that he told the president that he planned to question Former President No. President Kim again kept silent and did not answer.

However, it seems that Director Yi was firmly determined to question Former President No. High-ranking officials of the BAI began talking about the "inevitability of questioning Former President No" right after Director Yi decided to question Former President No.

When the Presidential Secretariat became aware of such moves by the BAI they started to react keenly. The office of the Chief Assistant to the President for Political Affairs reported to President Kim on the problems of questioning Former President No. The office of the Senior Secretary for Justice and Inspection even drew up a report on the legal basis for questioning Former President No in reporting to President Kim.

President Kim was said to have remained silent upon hearing these two reports. The Presidential Secretariat viewed President Kim's silence as clear opposition to the questioning of Former President No and conveyed this to the BAI.

In a 9 July news conference, however, Director Yi revealed the inevitability of questioning the former president. When asked, "How much was agreed upon with President Kim regarding this matter?" Director Yi answered: "I do not report to anyone on the direction or plans for inspections. I only present a summarized report on investigation results to President Kim." This remark also seems to imply that he does not receive orders from the president.

Meanwhile, Director Yi is said to have noted on private occasions, that he had a positive impression of President Kim. He said: "Isn't he different from the former presidents? For one thing, he listens when someone else talks."

Presidential aides say that President Kim understands Director Yi's position to some degree. President Kim realizes that the BAI has carried out much work and that Director Yi made considerable contributions ever since the new government set sail.

One politician defined the relations between President Kim and Director Yi as an 'uneasy balance.' He also expressed the hope that this uneasy balance will positively contribute to democratic development.

2nd 'Home-Grown' Satellite To Be Launched in Sep

SK1307112093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1001 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea's second home-grown "Uribyol (Our Star)" satellite will be unveiled to the public Wednesday and then be moved to its launch site in French Guiana on July 21, a spokesman for the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)'s Satellite Research Center in Taetok said Tuesday.

The Uribyol II, following the successful launch of its first version in August last year, will be lofted onto the orbit of the Earth 800 kilometers above ground on Sept. 1. The completely localized satellite has passed all tests in heat and vacuum survival, inertia computerization and weight control, adaption to electromagnetic waves, vibration and pressure, the spokesman said.

Five Unions To Return To Work for One Day 10 Jul

SK0907125893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1145 GMT 9 Jul 93

[Text] Ulsan, July 9 (YONHAP)—The worst of the labor disputes that have hit Hyundai Group Firms in the Ulsan area seemed over on Friday as unions at five of the nine firms engulfed in disputes decided to return to work on Saturday. The five unions decided to return to work for one day on Saturday in a gesture to urge the management to be more sincere in negotiations. The five were Hyundai Motor Co., Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Hyundai Wood Industrial Co., Hyundai Pipe Co. and Hyundai Precision Industry Co.

However, the union of Hyundai Construction Equipment Co. decided to go on a general strike for the fourth straight day on Saturday while Korea Flange Co. Union decided to take a day's off on Saturday with the excuse of the "family day" falling on every Saturday. The union of Hyundai Electrical Engineering Co. decided to continue to stage a partial strike on Saturday. On Friday, Hyundai Motor Co., Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. and three

other firms held wage negotiations with management while their workers staged partial strikes, but with little success.

Hyundai Labor To Hold Partial Strike 21-22 Jul

SK1407101393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0911 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Ulsan, July 14 (YONHAP)—All union workers at six affiliate companies of the Hyundai Business Group in Ulsan, went home Wednesday [14 July] after putting in a half day's work at the direction of Hyonchongnyon [the Federation of Trade Unions of Hyundai Affiliates] or the Federation of Hyundai Group Labor Unions. Members of the six unions were scheduled to do their normal work July 15-20 and stage a partial strike July 21-22 before calling a general strike on July 23 while they will continue their wage negotiations with management separately by companies on the other hand.

The six companies are Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Hyundai Motor Co., Hyundai Electrical Engineering Co., Hyundai Wood Industries Ltd., Hyundai Precision and Industry Co., and Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co. Nine Hyundai affiliates in Ulsan are in labor disputes.

Hyundai Construction Equipment Industrial Co. has been in a strike for eight days. Hyundai Pipe Co. workers are in normal works and they said they will keep working until Saturday while negotiating with management.

At Korea Flange Co., workers worked normally Wednesday but they will take a day off on Thursday, an anniversary of the company. Hyundai Group Chairman Chong Se-yong called for a general meeting of union members to decide whether to accept the management's new proposal. But union leaders asserted it is up to the unions to decide whether to hold a meeting or not.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Islamic Countries Ready To Send More Troops to Bosnia

BK1407110293 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0755 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 14 (OANA—BERNAMA)—Islamic countries are prepared to despatch bigger troops than that needed by the United Nations to serve in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Foreign Minister Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said Wednesday. He said this would be conveyed to UN Secretary General Butrus-Butrus Ghali who had earlier asked Islamic countries to send 7,600 troops to Bosnia under the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Siladjzic is also hoping for bigger troops in Bosnia under UNPROFOR, he told reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang near here on his return from attending a special meeting of ministers from the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) countries in Islamabad.

He said seven countries, including Malaysia were prepared to despatch 20,000 troops to Bosnia. The despatch of bigger troops could be made if UNPROFOR had more funds, he added.

Prime Minister Mahathir Visits Albania

WA1307151693

For reportage on the visit by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed to Albania, including reports on his talks with Albanian President Sali Berisha and Albanian Prime Minister Aleksander Meksi, please see the Albania section of the 13 July East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Council To Upgrade Economic Ties

BK1407101493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Malaysia and Albania have agreed to set up a joint council to draw plans to upgrade bilateral relations and economic cooperation. The agreement was reached following discussions between Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and Albanian President Sali Berisha and Premier Aleksander Meksi in Tirana. The two countries also agreed to sign several agreements to further strengthen cooperation in the economy, trade, and investment.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said this in a joint news conference with Mr. Meksi at the end of his three-day visit to the republic. The accords include the investment guarantee agreement, avoidance of double taxation agreement, bilateral payment agreement, and technical assistance program agreement. The prime minister said Malaysia is willing to share its experience and expertise to help Albania adjust and develop under open economic policy. Albania has (?500) small state-owned industries for privatization. It has invited Malaysian entrepreneurs to participate in the privatization exercise.

On Bosnia, the prime minister called for the immediate deployment of troops from Islamic countries in the UN peacekeeping force in Bosnia. The call was made in the light of the proposed lifting of the arms sanction [words indistinct]. Malaysia is concerned about the possible massacre of Muslims by Bosnian Serbs when British and French troops withdraw from the former Yugoslav republic.

Mahathir Returns Home 14 Jul

BK1407100493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0750 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 14 (OANA—BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and his wife Dr. Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali returned home Wednesday after a three-day official visit to Albania.

They touched down at the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Air Station in Sungai Besih at 7.15 am local time.

Prior to the visit to Albania, Dr. Mahathir and his wife were on vacation overseas.

Singapore

Malaysian Defense Minister Explains Modernization

BK1207144593 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Summary from poor reception] "The Malaysian defense minister has said Malaysia must develop a modest deterrent capability and its armed forces must become an excellent modern fighting force. To achieve this, Mr. Najib Tun Razak said Malaysia would keep its defense spending at a decent level for the next 10 to 15 years.

"Speaking at the Foreign Correspondents Association, he stressed that Malaysia was not developing its armed forces because of any threats. Mr. Najib said Singapore's defense minister, Dr. Yeo Ning Hong, has responded positively to the modernization of Malaysia's armed forces, saying it would add up to a stronger ASEAN, and if Singapore was stronger, it would also strengthen ASEAN.

"On the next generation of leaders within UMNO [United Malays National Organization], Mr. Najib said although they may have different styles and approaches, they are committed to Vision 2020."

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Arrives in Phnom Penh for Talks

BK1307052693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0502 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 13 (AFP)—The nominal leader of the Khmer Rouge Khieu Samphan arrived here Tuesday to hold talks on the recalcitrant faction's future role in the Cambodian community.

"He will discuss all the issues that Cambodia is facing," Khmer Rouge advisor Kor Bunheng, waiting at the airport to greet the leader and his entourage, said.

Khieu Samphan arrived with the two envoys he had sent to the capital July 1 to pave the way for his return, spokesman Mak Ben and and former ambassador to Beijing Chan Youran. He refused to speak to reporters at the airport saying he first wanted to speak with Prince Sihanouk. But he told a reporter on the flight in from Bangkok that it would be good to be back in Phnom Penh. This was the first time the nominal leader had returned here since the Khmer Rouge vacated their compound adjacent to the Royal Palace in April claiming they no longer felt secure.

Khieu Samphan left the airport for a meeting with FUNCINPEC [National United Front for Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] leader Prince Norodom Ranariddh and then met with his father Prince Sihanouk. He was later scheduled to meet with the deputy head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission Behrooz Sadry and the U.N. Force Commander Lieutenant General John Sanderson, U.N. officials said.

Proposes Merger With Coalition Army

BK1307072093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 13 (AFP)—The nominal leader of Cambodia's radical Khmer Rouge faction, Khieu Samphan, proposed Tuesday that his guerilla force merge with the new coalition government's united armed forces.

"We have proposed to establish a quadripartite army so as to avoid clashes and confrontation in the military field," Khieu Samphan said.

He said the offer was made during an audience with the Cambodian head of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, "in the spirit of national reconciliation and in response to the appeal of his Royal Highness."

Khieu Samphan arrived in the capital only a few hours earlier for what a spokesman described as wide-ranging talks with government officials.

Agrees To Return Preah Vihear Temple

BK1307120093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 13 (AFP)—Nominal leader of Cambodia's radical Khmer Rouge Khieu Samphan said his faction would give back the 1,000-year-old Preah Vihear temple that it seized last week, Prince Norodom Ranariddh said Tuesday.

Khieu Samphan agreed to hand the temple back but only to ANKI [National Army of Independent Kampuchea] (FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] military) troops, the prince said. He had previously refused to return it over to Phnom Penh forces in the area.

"Last Thursday my father (Prince Sihanouk) requested that if DK [Democratic Kampuchea] (Khmer Rouge) did not like to give it back to the former State of Cambodia (Phnom Penh party) then they could give it back to ANKI," the prince said. The prince criticised the Khmer Rouge leader for refusing to give the historic hill-top temple back to the Phnom Penh troops and pointed out that the new coalition government had agreed on a united armed forces.

Meanwhile Khieu Samphan, on a brief visit to the capital Tuesday, said his faction proposed joining a quadripartite army "to avoid clashes and confrontation on the military field.

A Western diplomat, however, cautioned against interpreting this as meaning the Khmer Rouge were prepared to join the government's new united armed forces.

"Quadripartite is the key word," he said.

VGNUFC Reports Visit

BK1407004093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] On 13 July, Khieu Samphan and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] delegation went to Phnom Penh. During the trip, Khieu Samphan and the PDK delegation called on His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state, and held talks with the prince and the royal consort on various political issues in a cordial and warm atmosphere.

Khieu Samphan and the PDK delegation also held political talks with Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia.

During the trip, Khieu Samphan and the PDK delegation also held political talks with leading national and foreign personalities. Cambodian, diplomatic, and foreign circles have paid great attention to the trip. People

have also paid great attention to their arrival and activities, particularly the people and masses in Phnom Penh who said Khieu Samphan's trip was in search of national reconciliation according to the prince father's plan.

Foreign and diplomatic circles have also noted that this is a goodwill trip to pave the way for national reconciliation in accordance with the plan of the prince, Cambodian head of state. People have prayed that the prince father's national reconciliation plan will be achieved soon.

KR To Open Zones if Given Role

BK1407050293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0445 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 14 (AFP)—Cambodia's radical Khmer Rouge will open up their zones along the Thai border if the faction is included in the country's new government and army, head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Wednesday. In a statement released by the Royal Palace, Prince Sihanouk said Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan proposed that his faction be included in the national army of Cambodia and asked also that the faction be accepted as permanent advisors to the government.

The prince said that if he and the government allowed the Khmer Rouge these two roles "his excellency Mr. Khieu Samphan would agree to the PDK [Party of Democratic Kampuchea] (Khmer Rouge) returning their autonomous zones and the Preah Vihear temple to the Cambodian state."

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, however, said late Tuesday that Khieu Samphan had informed him that the guerrillas would return the thousand-year-old sacred temple, but only to FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] (Royalist) troops. He did not mention any other conditions.

"Perhaps Khieu Samphan said something different to Prince Sihanouk than to Prince Ranariddh," a government official said.

Khieu Samphan agreed to the establishment of a Round Table—consisting of the Prince Sihanouk, Khieu Samphan, the two co-presidents of the government, Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen, and either the chairman of the constituent assembly Son Sann or the vice chairman Chea Sim—to discuss and examine the Khmer Rouge's proposal and conditions, Sihanouk said.

The talks will be held in the last two week's of September, when Sihanouk returns from Beijing. He is scheduled to leave for North Korea on July 15 and is later to fly on to Beijing.

The prince said he let Khieu Samphan know that there could be "difficulties raised by the United States, which is opposed to the eventual participation of the PDK in the National Government of Cambodia". Washington has made it known that it would not look favourably on Khmer Rouge inclusion in the government and has said it could be a barrier to aid.

Prince Sihanouk said he also wanted determine France's reaction to the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in the army. France agreed last week to leave several dozen troops in Cambodia following the end of the U.N. mission in August-September, to train the new army.

Prince Sihanouk made no reference to his offer of giving ministerial portfolios to the Khmer Rouge. Khieu Samphan said Tuesday that Prince Ranariddh told him that his father, Prince Sihanouk, suggested giving the radical faction some ministerial positions.

"If such is the case we would accept with pleasure in the spirit of national reconciliation. But for our part we demand no ministerial positions, only the role of counsellor," Khieu Samphan said.

Government officials said they thought Prince Sihanouk had not publicly aired this offer as he wanted first to see if the Khmer Rouge was sincere.

"Maybe he is waiting for the Khmer Rouge to do something concrete first," one government official said.

Foreign Minister Sirivut Thanks DPRK Counterpart

BK1407013693 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Jul 93

["12 July message of thanks" from Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, to DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam]

[Text] I would like to thank your excellency deeply for your warmest greetings and best wishes on my appointment as the minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia.

I fully concur with you in firmly believing that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further consolidate.

Your excellency, please accept my highest regards.

Sihanouk: Agriculture 'Basis' of Nation

BK1207133093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0958 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] Phnum Tamau, Cambodia, July 12 (AFP)—Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk called Monday on the country's peasants to emulate the agricultural sucess of the country's historical Angkor era. "All our people could live comfortably in those times becuase they mastered agricultural skills," the prince said referring to Cambodia's historical peak some 700 years ago.

The prince was speaking at a tree-planting ceremony at an agricultural station run by the Lutheran World Service aid organisation about 42 kilometers (25 miles) south of the capital. "Nothing is better than agriculture to improve our nation's standard of living," the prince said.

The ceremony was attended by the co-presidents of the government Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen along with many of the country's new ministers.

The minister for agriculture Kong Sam-ol told the gathering his ministry had worked very hard over the past 13 years to promote reforestation.

"The Ministry of Agriculture has organised this tree celebration day to help improve the scenery and to help promote Cambodia as a tourist destination," he said.

The prince addressed a crowd of some 500 peasants following the minister's speech. "Agriculture is the basis of our nation," he said.

About 90 percent of the country's population live off the land.

While encouraging hard work the prince said the people should enjoy life too. "We should not work like during Pol Pot's rule," the prince said referring to life in the harsh rural communes under the Khmer Rouge's 1975-1979 rule.

"Pol Pot said why should we grow flowers in the city, we should grow bananas and build sties to raise pigs. He wanted to make the towns just like the countryside. But if we were to do that and diplomats came to visit us how can we show them the difference between the towns and the countryside?" the prince said.

The Khmer Rouge, however, had improved. "They have changed 50 percent compared to the past," he said.

Following the ceremony the prince gave gifts of blankets and mosquito nets, which were donated by the Thai Government, to a group of about 100 amputees. Prince Sihanoak also gave 20,000 riel, about eight dollars, to each amputee.

Editorial Urges UNTAC To Aid in Economic Field

BK1407094793 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 12-18 Jul 93 p 2

[Editorial: "UNTAC should drop politics, take over economic reins"]

[Text] The country's largest circulation national newspaper, the CAMBODIA TIMES, is now one year old.

The last year has gone swiftly, punctuated with thousands of memorable events that culminated with the formation of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia this month.

The paper has witnessed a stunning achievement for the people, allowing their political representatives and themselves to come out winners after many years of war and strife.

At long last, a structure is now in place where citizens of differing political persuasions can share power and work towards a future which bears so much promise and hope. At last, peace is upon the land.

The people have a debt of gratitude to the world community, through the presence of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], for having stayed the course and providing the means by which the country arrived at national reconciliation.

The politicians have heard and heeded the people's will.

They not only promised to work together; they are actually doing it. The people are happy.

UNTAC's role as political referee is over and from here on, it is up to Cambodians and Cambodians alone to decide how they want to carry on with their political future.

UNTAC cannot continue with a prescriptive approach as to what Cambodia ought to do.

In short, UNTAC cannot involve itself and interfere anymore in local politics. It must stop trying to be more Cambodian than the Cambodians themselves.

Every Tom, Tim and Harry in UNTAC must resist the urge to play self-appointed political overlord and desist from passing instant judgment on the conduct of local politics.

There is nothing worse than a collection of self righteous foreigners who 'knows what is best for Cambodia'.

In the twilight months of its presence here, UNTAC has to shift its focus from political to economic rehabilitation.

This should be its rightful role where it can make a most important contribution as the next and final chapter of the peace process.

Contributing towards economic rehabilitation will go a long way in reinforcing UNTAC's achievement in the country.

A component of UNTAC has organised a top level seminar on the environment.

Another is in the works for foreign investment. And yet another is on the drawing board for the civil service.

These and other efforts will go a long way in laying the foundation which can be used as a basis for national and economic development by the new government.

Donor countries will also have some guidelines to follow when fulfilling pledges of aid in the months and years to come.

Economic rehabilitation is where UNTAC's entire resources ought to be channeled, so that twenty years from now, mothers and fathers to a new generation of Cambodians will look back and tell their children that thousands of people came from all over the world under the flag of the United Nations and helped lay the groundwork for lasting peace and economic prosperity.

CPP Renames Streets in Sihanouk's Honor

BK0807125693 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 8 Jul 93

["Communique"]

[Text] On the morning of 7 July 1993, His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim came to the Royal Palace and informed His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk as follows:

The Cambodian People's Party [CPP], with profound respect for the prince father of the Cambodian nation, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, has decided to give various important streets and boulevards in Phnom Penh their former names as they existed during the Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's former Popular Socialist Party] era between 1955-69, such as the Norodom and Monivong Boulevards.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk would like to express his profound feelings of love and gratitude to H.E. Chea Sim and the CPP for this noble attitude full of friendship, esteem, and equity.

Done at the Royal Palace on 7 July 1993
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Indonesia

Suharto To Discuss Islands Dispute With Mahathir

BK1307134093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Following his meeting with President Suharto at Merdeka Presidential Palace in Jakarta today, Minister/State Secretary Murdiono said that the subject on the Northern Growth Triangle will be discussed at length between the head of state and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed.

President Suharto is scheduled to meet Premier Mahathir at the end of this week in Langkawi island, Malaysia.

Murdiono, who was accompanied by Indonesian Ambassador to Malaysia Sudarmadi, told newsmen that the development of tourism will be given a priority under the Northern Growth Triangle project, a joint economic development zone which covers southern Thailand, the north-west Malaysian state, and the western end of Indonesia.

According to Murdiono, the head of state will also discuss bilateral relations, regional and international development with Mahathir during his working visit to Malaysia. There is also a possibility that President Suharto will brief his Malaysian counterpart on the outcome of his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in Tokyo, especially concerning the Nonaligned Movement's attitude toward the Group of Seven.

President and Madame Suharto will be accompanied by Hartarto, coordinating minister for industrial and trade affairs, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Minister/State Secretary Murdiono, Joop Ave, minister of tourism, post, and telecommunications, and Minister of Manpower Abdul Latif on their visit to the neighboring country beginning 16 July.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0850 GMT on 13 July carries a Jakarta-datelined item which adds: "President Suharto plans to bring up a dispute over two islands during talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, a senior Indonesian official said Tuesday. 'The dispute over the islands of Sipadan and Ligitan between Malaysia and Indonesia will be discussed between President Suharto and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed in their meeting in Langkawi island,' State Secretary Minister Murdiono said.

["Announcing Suharto's planned visit to the Malaysian tourist island for talks with Mahathir on July 16-18, Murdiono cited Jakarta's wish that the dispute could be settled 'in a spirit of brotherhood and kinship.' Murdiono said the Indonesian government wants comprehensive research to be conducted on the status of the islands, to include proofs of claim, their history and documentation as well as the legal basis for the claims.

["'If all these cannot resolve it,' Murdiono said, 'both Indonesia and the president are of the opinion that the issue of the two islands should be taken to a competent international body to decide on their ownership status.'

["He did not say which international body might mediate in the dispute.

["The two small islands off the coast of the border between the Malaysian state of Sabah and the Indonesian province of East Kalimantan have been a thorn in relations between the two neighbouring countries since 1969 when both laid claim to the two small islands."]

East Timor Asylum-Seekers Apply to ICRC Program

BK1307150493 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 6 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Three East Timorese, whose request for political asylum from the Swedish Embassy was turned down, applied to join the family reunification program with the Red Cross yesterday.

Human rights lawyer H.J.C. Princen accompanied the three men to the representative office of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] yesterday.

"I am optimistic ICRC will accept their application," Princen told THE JAKARTA POST.

He denied an earlier suggestion that the ICRC program to reunite East Timorese who want to leave the territory with relatives in Portugal has been terminated.

The three East Timorese were being accommodated at Princen's house in East Jakarta. They were holed up at the Swedish Embassy for nine days last week as they insisted on asylum or passage out of the country. Both requests were turned down.

An official of the Foreign Affairs Ministry said over the weekend that the East Timor family reunion program was terminated a long time ago by agreement between Indonesia and Portugal.

Princen insisted that the East Timorese's bid to leave the country will succeed although he acknowledged that it would also depend on the government's attitude.

He referred to an April meeting between Indonesian and Portuguese foreign ministers in Rome in which both agreed to continue their talks to resolve the East Timor question through the United Nations.

The agreement is said to be part of the confidence building measure to help resolve the dispute once and for all.

"The government should act consistently, in line with the agreement," Princen said.

Minister: Foreign Radio Broadcasts 'Threat'

BK1407030693 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0200 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Coordinating Minister for Politics and Security Affairs Susilo Sudarman says foreign radio broadcasts are one form of threat to the cohesion and unity of the nation because they tend to carry negative reports about Indonesia. At a meeting with several ambassador-designates in Jakarta yesterday, Susilo Sudarman said the Indonesian people should be grateful to the fact the country is peaceful and [words indistinct]. However, people must be vigilant to threats against national cohesion and unity, which, among other things, are manifested in the form of foreign radio broadcasts. The minister also urged the ambassador-designates to uphold the country's image overseas, while promoting trade and tourism.

Vice President, Entourage Depart for Brunei

BK1407073993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Vice President Try Sutrisno left today for Brunei Darussalam at the invitation of Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah. Reporting on the vice president's departure from Jakarta's Halim Perdanakusumah Airport is RRI correspondent (Latiman):

[Begin (Latiman) recording] At 1100 West Indonesian Time [0400 GMT] today, a Pelita Air Service special flight carrying Vice President Sutrisno and his entourage took off from the Halim Perdanakusumah Airport. The vice president and Mrs. Sutrisno are visiting Brunei at the invitation of Sultan Bolkiah on the occasion of the sultan's 47th birthday celebrations.

During his three-day visit to Brunei, Vice President Sutrisno will hold talks with Bruneian leaders in an effort to upgrade bilateral relations. The vice president's entourage includes [name indistinct] and Defense and Security Minister Edi Sudrajat.

The vice president and his entourage were seen off at the airport by Azwar Anas, coordinating minister for public welfare; Saadilah Mursyid, state minister and cabinet secretary; and Jakarta Governor Suryadi Sudirja. [end recording]

Officials Visit Ailing Dissident Leader Nasution

BK1407081093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Members of parliament have welcomed news of the visit by Coordinating Minister for Politics and Security Affairs Susilo Sudarman, Armed Forces Commander Gen. Feisal Tanjung, Defense and Security Minister Edi Sudrajat, and Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Suryadi of retired General A.H. Nasution, who is undergoing treatment at Jakarta's Army Hospital. [name indistinct], chairman of the Armed Forces parliamentary faction said Gen. A.H. Nasution is an honorable and senior military officer.

Meanwhile, Sabam Sirait from the Indonesian Democratic Party parliamentary faction said the visit was normal because it reflected these military officers' respect of their senior counterpart who had helped build a clean and effective government.

[Hong Kong AFP in English 0540 GMT 14 Jul in a similar Jakarta-datelined report adds: "Several key Indonesian military leaders have visited two ailing retired officers known to be vocal against the policies of the government, the military information office said Wednesday. Coordinating minister of politics and security affairs Susilo Sudharman, defence minister Edi Sudrajat, military chief Feisal Tanjung and deputy army chief Suryadi Tuesday visited retired generals Abdul Haris Nasution and Hartono Rekso Dharsono.

["'They came to visit their elders. The fact is that it was a visit by military leaders who were once students of general Nasution,' said Haiim, an officer at the military headquarters' information office.

["Nasution, 75, and Dharsono, 68, were both visited at the private wing of the Gatot Subroto army hospital

where the two are being treated. They were both members of the '45 Generation' which fought the Dutch colonial forces during the country's struggle for independence in the latter half of the 1940s.

["Tuesday's visit was the latest in a series of official contacts with leading members and supporters of the Group of 50, who have been political pariahs since the group criticized Suharto's policies in 1980.

["Research and Technology Minister Jusuf Habibie extended the group an invitation to visit a ship-launching ceremony at a state shipyard in east Java in June, their first ever invitation to attend an official event. The visit was followed by another, to the state aircraft factory in nearby Bandung earlier this month."]

New Naval Base Opens in Southeast Maluku

BK1307161493 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 6 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The navy has established a new base in Aru in southeast Maluku to help enhance security and encourage economic growth in the eastern part of the country.

"The presence of the naval base has a strategic value to defend Indonesia's sovereignty and boost the development of marine natural resources in the Aru islands and other areas in the region," Navy Chief Vice Admiral Tanto Kuswanto said in his address dedicating the base in Kalar-kalar, Aru.

The base, built in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works, is equipped with a modern control station and other military facilities.

The base will function as an integrated weaponary system station for the navy in carrying out joint operations with local administrations in the region, Tanto said.

The navy and other authorities will use the base to help spark the development of fisheries, tourism, and sea transportation in Maluku, he added.

He said the government is determined to focus its development program in the eastern part of the country and the development of marine sector will be a priority in the sixth Five Year Plan that will start next April.

"This will give opportunities to people in the region to improve their welfare," he said.

Thailand

Cabinet Approves Draft Bill on Copyrights

BK1307160893 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] The government has approved the draft bill on copyrights as proposed by the Commerce Ministry and planned to submit it to the House of Representatives during the current session.

The cabinet, during today's meeting, considered a draft bill on intellectual property rights protection and approved the draft Copyrights Act of 1992 as proposed by the Commerce Ministry. The legislation, in principle, will nullify the Copyrights Act of 1978 and provide a clearer guideline for copyrights protection to cover computer software and strengthen the protection of the rights of copyright holders.

Approves Copyright Amendments

BK1407013593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 93 p 15

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved proposed amendments to copyright law that would expand protection to cover computer software and performers' rights but would also allow the withdrawal of protection in certain circumstances.

The bill is to be submitted to Parliament this month. It is part of an understanding reached with the Office of the US Trade Representative during negotiations in Washington in late April and early May designed to avoid the imposition of US sanctions against Thailand under Section 301 of American trade law.

In addition to approving the copyright bill, the Cabinet accepted yesterday a package of measures resulting from the Washington talks. These mainly concern the application of patent protection on pharmaceuticals, the other major issue of complaint from the Americans.

But ministers decided not to yield to a US demand for seven-year backdated protection for "pipeline" drugs—pharmaceuticals already invented and therefore not eligible for protection when the new patent law came into force last September, but not yet available in Thailand.

The Cabinet stood by an earlier decision to offer administrative measures including safety monitoring programmes that would prevent other companies from selling copies of the pipeline drugs for four or five years.

It also approved a cut-off date for pipeline drugs—to be eligible for protection in Thailand they would have to have first been patented in another country between January 1 1986, and September 30, 1991.

Drugs patented before 1986 would be considered too old for pipeline protection.

At the same time, ministers approved new draft regulations clarifying how the Pharmaceutical Patent Committee will exercise its powers. The committee is responsible for making sure that patent protection does not lead to over-pricing or the withdrawal of supply, and the United States fears that these powers could open-up loopholes weakening patent protection.

The draft regulations impose limits on such powers as compulsory licensing—the committee's ability to force

patent-holders companies to license competitors for a fee if the patent-holders are found to be abusing monopoly power.

The copyright bill would clarify the current uncertainty over the position of computer software. Current law leaves the question of whether software is covered up to the courts to decide. But the bill would offer some special treatment for software.

It would extend copyright protection to cover rental of software and movies. It would extend rights to cover performances, a measure that would bring the law up to international standards and lay the foundations for performers to be paid for use of their work.

It would include new compulsory licensing provisions that would exempt from copyright restrictions on the translation into Thai of works that have not been translated under copyright within three years, and would allow, for example, restaurants and hotels to play copyrighted music without having to seek permission first.

The bill would also strengthen the hands of prosecutors by toughening penalties, clarifying methods of establishing who owns the copyright of copied works, and empowering courts to impose injunctions on people suspected to be about to copy.

The cost to the Thai economy arising from tighter intellectual property protection is difficult to estimate. Ministers balance it against the benefit of avoiding US trade sanctions and reducing the uncertainty overhanging Thai exports as a result of Thailand remaining on Washington's "Priority Foreign Country" list of trading partners closest to suffering sanctions.

Earlier this week, the parliamentary committee dealing with Thai-US trade conflict released estimates of the cost of higher-priced medicines that might arise from pipeline protection.

Calculated by the Public Health Ministry, the estimates suggest that the cost of five years of pipeline protection for drugs already sold abroad could be 476-634 million baht, assuming 300-400 drugs are eligible.

For seven years of protection, the cost would rise to 936-1,200 million baht.

Approves Log Import Policy Review

BK1407015193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a National Security Council [NSC] proposal to review the log import policy with neighbouring countries, particularly Burma, to ensure the availability of timber for local consumption needs, said government sources. The NSC proposed that Thailand adjust its system so that future logging operations with neighbouring countries are based on common interest.

Any future logging deals in neighbouring countries must be carried out with the knowledge of the Government and in strict compliance with academic and natural conservation principles.

Private companies awarded logging concessions will also be closely supervised by the Government to make sure they abide by logging agreements with neighbouring countries.

More high-level meetings between Thai officials and their counterparts in neighbouring countries will be arranged to enhance better understanding, the sources said.

The adjustments sought to the log import policy are aimed at giving the country a good image and creating better understanding for Thailand in the world community in its dealings with neighbouring countries in the logging business.

The Cabinet also acknowledged a decision by the NSC to open two checkpoints on the Cambodian border to allow two Thai private firms to bring in processed wood.

The decision was adopted with the consent of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia and the Cambodian Supreme National Council as it does not contravene the UN resolution on Cambodia.

The checkpoints have been opened at Chong Chom in Surin's Karb Choeng District and at Chong Arn Ma in Ubon Ratchathani's Nam Yuen District.

The checkpoints were opened for Thai Reforestation and Wood Industry Company and B.L.P. Import-Export Company to import processed wood for up to five years.

The Cabinet also allowed 15,700.9 cubic metres of timber to be brought across the border in Trat.

New Cambodian Government May Cancel Investment Deals

BK1107021893 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Jul 93 p A1

[Text] THE new government in Cambodia "may need to revise completely if not cancel" some foreign investment contracts and concessions despite an earlier pledge from co-president Prince Norodom Ranariddh to honour existing accords, a senior Cambodian official said.

Finance Minister Sam Rangsi said a "political programme" drawn up by the newly-elected Constituent Assembly requires the interim government to "defend public goods and the interest of the state".

"Unequal contracts where one party gets the lion's share at the expense of the national interest of Cambodia must be re-adjusted," he said in an interview with THE NATION over the weekend.

The new finance minister singled out logging and "some long-term concessions" as areas which would need close scrutiny.

"Logging is very important because the national interest is at stake. Logging has caused a catastrophe in Cambodia and has threatened the future of the country in terms of the environment," he said.

Thai companies control the majority of timber concessions awarded by the former warring factions and have been blamed for extensive uncontrolled logging along the western border of Cambodia. According to UN figures, 620,000 cubic metres of Cambodian timber were shipped to Thailand in 1992. A Supreme National Council (SNC) imposed logging ban slowed the trade in January this year but Thai logging firms continue to be accused of smuggling timber from the western neighbour.

Telecommunications giant Chinawat, which was awarded a 99-year concession to operate a television station, and the Thai-owned Floating Hotel which was awarded a 99-year lease to moor alongside the prestigious Chatomuk embankment, are often cited as examples of dubious deals struck by the former Phnom Penh government and Thai businessmen.

Rangsi said he believed existing contracts fell into three categories.

"Firstly, there are the existing contracts which are fair enough and we will go on with them. There will be some contracts that need some amendments to make them conform to the political programme and some may need to be completely revised, not to say cancelled," he said.

Rangsi said he had yet to investigate the details of any particular deals but said the reviews would be done on a case by case basis and "not in a systematic manner".

The minister noted that the interim government would only be in power for another two months but said any outstanding queries over contracts would be forwarded to the new government. Most observers however expect Rangsi, a French-educated banker, to maintain the finance portfolio when a constitutional government assumes power in mid-September.

The minister said the new government would encourage foreign investment but stressed it must provide mutual benefit.

"We will make sure all the contracts are fair. Private companies can operate fairly and profitably and the national interest of Cambodia can be preserved," he said.

The move to tighten control over foreign concessions is part of a wider fiscal overhaul being undertaken by the cash-strapped administration. Rangsi said he was working on a programme to raise taxes on a wide range of products including petrol, cigarettes and alcohol.

He said taxes on high income earners would be raised and measures would be introduced to stamp out smuggling and increase the efficiency of revenue collection, particularly customs which accounts for the bulk of state funds. The minister said the exact tax rates had yet to be formulated but rumours among Phnom Penh-based importers said duty on foreign cars would be as high as 200-300 per cent.

"I have to use any means to find revenue for the state in order to find a means to pay wages. Civil servants are very poor and living in very difficult conditions. But this will not be enough and we will need international assistance to maintain an administration," Rangsi said.

Diplomats in Phnom Penh agreed in late June that US$30 million would be needed to keep the new government afloat but have yet to come to an agreement on how to raise the funds.

Rangsi said he was working on reforms of the financial system in Cambodia designed to give the finance ministry a central role in the implementation of economic policy and also to ensure greater transparency and control over state funds.

"I would call this a real market oriented economy. A market economy is a jungle economy. The difference is the rule of law and a real market economy can only form and prosper within the framework of a law for the long term good of Cambodia.

Government Prepared To Cope With Cambodian Fighting

BK1307150393 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Surin Phitsuwan said that the Thai side has prepared to cope with the situation if fighting breaks out in the vicinity of the ancient Cambodian temple of Preah Vihear. The Suranari Task Force and the administration of Sisaket Province are closely watching developments. On 7 July, the Khmer Rouge raided and captured Preah Vihear Temple inside Cambodia near the Thai border in Sisaket Province. It is feared that fighting between the Khmer Rouge and the Phnom Penh regime's troops might break out.

Speaking to reporters at Government House yesterday, the deputy foreign minister said the temple's capture was an internal Cambodian matter, adding: We hope that it will not lead to the further aggravation of the situation. The Thai Government wants to see the Cambodian factions settle their conflict through peaceful means.

The deputy foreign minister disclosed that the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC, is preparing to withdraw from Cambodia after having completed its mission of arranging for the general election in that country. The UNTAC move is appropriate because the UN force should not stay in Cambodia for too long. However, before its withdrawal, UNTAC must

do something to guarantee that the Cambodian factions will be able to settle their problems.

UNTAC Said Making Allegations About KR Support

BK1407020793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] Most negative reports about alleged Thai support for the Khmer Rouge derive from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) rather than the Cambodian authorities Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak said yesterday.

There have also been reports Cambodia may be trying to drag Thailand into its affairs by charging Thai troops with aiding the Khmer Rouge in the capture of Preah Vihear temple on the border near Surin Province.

Gen Wichit said Thailand had good relations with Cambodia and, from what he had heard, it was UNTAC which had been issuing reports of Thai support for the Khmer Rouge.

The Defence Minister said this was because UNTAC is responsible for monitoring UN trade sanctions against the Khmer Rouge. UNTAC is worried Thailand is still doing business with the Khmer Rouge and has more relations with them than with other Cambodian factions.

"It's their right to be suspicious," he said.

But he also said it was "totally correct" for Thailand to be given the right to maintain relations with anyone who offered benefits for the country.

Thailand has denied Thai troops aided the Khmer Rouge in capturing the mountaintop temple and has insisted it has no special relationship with the guerrilla faction hated throughout the international community for its massacre of over a million Cambodians during its reign during the mid-1970s.

Gen Wichit refused to answer questions about security concerns involving Khmer Rouge troops at Preah Vihear. He said he would only discuss the issue with fellow soldiers and those responsible for national security.

He also said he was confident the Thai armed forces could take care of the country's security.

There has been little effect on Thailand from the capture of the temple other than tourists no longer being able to visit the area.

Gen Wichit said UNTAC represented the UN and if there was anything to talk to them about, Thai representatives at the UN should do the talking.

Checkpoints Opened for Cambodian Wood Imports

BK1407045293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] The cabinet yesterday heard the result of a meeting of the National Security Council, NSC, subcommittee on 2 June this year on trading with Cambodia. The NSC subcommittee has approved the opening of temporary checkpoints as asked [by] two private companies for the transportation of processed wood from Cambodia and permitted by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, UNTAC, and the Cambodian Supreme National Council, SNC.

One checkpoint, to be opened until 29 August 1996, is Chong Chom checkpoint in Kap Choeng District in Surin Province. Another checkpoint is An Ma pass in Nam Yun District of Ubon Ratchathani Province, to be opened for five years. The amount of processed wood to be transported from Cambodia must be inspected by the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs to be in accordance with the SNC ruling. As for the processed wood of 15,700 cubic meters brought by sea at Khlong Yai District in Trat Province, tax has to be paid.

Government To Sign Extradition Treaty With PRC

BK1307101393 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 12 Jul 93 p 3

[Text] China has a policy of concluding extradition treaties with friendly countries and has chosen Thailand as the first country to conclude such a treaty with.

Police Major General Itsaraphan Saniwong Na Ayutthaya, Interpol commander, said that at the invitation of the Chinese Government, an official delegation comprising representatives from the Foreign Ministry, Interior Ministry, Police Department, and Public Prosecution Department had visited Beijing recently for talks on the signing of an extradition agreement.

Police Major General Itsaraphan said that more details of the agreement must be discussed by the two sides. According to the initial agreement reached in Beijing, Thailand will invite Chinese authorities to Bangkok soon to finalize the details before the official signing. He said that China has opened up to the outside world and is willing to conclude extradition treaties with all friendly countries. China has chosen Thailand as the first country to conclude an extradition treaty with, and this reflects the close relations between the two countries.

Police Major General Itsaraphan said that China must cooperate with other countries in solving various problems, especially the drug trafficking problem. Drug traffickers have diverted their smuggling routes through China's southwestern city of Kunming and other coastal cities to move narcotics from the Golden Triangle to the world market. The Chinese Government has tried to eliminate the drug trafficking routes. The Chinese

authorities have invited Police Lieutenant General Kowit Phakdiphum, Narcotics Suppression Bureau commissioner, to China in late May for talks on narcotics suppression cooperation and exchange of information. A hotline has been set up to enable officials of the two countries to coordinate their crackdown on the drug trade.

According to Police Major General Itsaraphan, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore have become favorite destinations for Chinese economic criminals. So, China must conclude extradition treaties in order to take legal action against those criminals.

Consulate Approved for China's Yunnan Province

BK1407052793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] A Thai consulate general will be set up in Kunming in Yunnan Province in southern China. The cabinet yesterday approved the proposal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the matter. Thailand will greatly benefit from the opening of the new consulate general as the government's offensive diplomacy to expand its cooperation with south China and Indochina region has been on the agenda at present. The establishment strategy in promoting cooperation with Southeast Asian countries. [sentence as heard] The consulate will definite have an important role to play in promoting and strengthening of relationship between Thailand and Yunnan. With its neighboring provinces, it will also enhance investment of the two countries as well as oversee and protect the Thai business people who will be investing more and more in the region.

Vietnam

Diplomatic Relations Established With Israel

BK1407063193 Hanoi VNA in English 0545 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 14—Vietnam and Israel have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, announced the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi on Tuesday.

The ministry said a joint communique to this effect was signed in Jerusalem on Monday between Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin.

The two countries reached the agreement during Nien's visit to Israel from July 11-13. During his talks with his Israeli counterpart, and his meetings with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, with Industry and Commerce Minister [title as received] Mikha Harish, and with other high-ranking officials and business leaders, measures were discussed to promote bilateral relations in different areas.

Speaking to reporters following the signing of the joint communique, Nien said diplomatic relations would promote bilateral cooperation, especially in economy, trade and culture, for the benefit of stability and peace on both regional and world scales.

Nien said Vietnam would continue to develop its traditional friendship and cooperation with the Arab countries and would continue to support the struggle of the Palestinian people for their fundamental national rights.

Hanoi TV Reviews Senator Smith's Visit

BK1407024793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] A U.S. delegation led by Senator Robert Smith visited Vietnam from 8-11 July to collect further information on unidentified American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam War.

Upon their arrival in Hanoi, SRV Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai and other Foreign Ministry officials held a working session with the U.S. delegation.

The delegation was received by party General Secretary Do Muoi who asserted Vietnam's stand in cooperating with the United States in the search for American servicemen missing in action and its willingness to continue providing essential information in this regard.

Senator Robert Smith thanked the Vietnamese Government and people for their cooperation with the United States in general and with his delegation, in particular, in providing essential information on the MIA issue.

The U.S. delegation also met with Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang and representatives of the Ministries of National Defense and Interior to discuss various issues concerned. The delegation visited many cites in Hanoi, Ha Tay, Vinh Phu, Nam Ha, and Yen Bai Provinces to clarify reports about live sightings of Americans after the war. Wherever they visited, the U.S. delegation was enthusiastically assisted by the local authorities and people.

Before leaving Vietnam on 11 July, Senator Smith and Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai jointly held a news conference.

National Assembly Issues Communique No. 18

BK1307155193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Jul 93

[Communique No. 18 of the Ninth National Assembly's Third Session]

[Text] On 13 July National Assembly deputies held a plenary meeting at the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Duc Manh to continue their debate on and pass the land law.

Some 52 deputies took part in the debate on a number of controversial articles in the draft law. They included

Phung Quang Hung, Huu Tho, Dinh Van The, Nguyen Xuan Thuyet, and Bui Huu Hai from Vinh Phu; Dam Van Nguy from Cao Bang; Dang Van Hai from Ha Tay; Lam Phuc Co, Nguyen Dinh Loc, and Trieu Thanh Nhay from Yen Bai; Danh Ut and Bui Van Tam from Kien Giang; Pham Xuan Dinh from Can Tho; Lo Van Inh from Lai Chau; Pham Thi Son from Ba Ria-Vung Tau; Nguyen Van Rang, Tran Du Lich, Le Khac Binh, Huynh Thi Nhan, and Do Hoang Khai from Ho Chi Minh City; Nguyen Ba and Nguyen Quoc Thuoc from Nghe An; Trinh Xuan Mao, Ha Dinh Xo, and Le Van Tam from Thanh Hoa; Tran Dinh Phung, Nguyen Van Yeu, Pham Hung, and Tran Van Phac from Hai Hung; Le Thi Bich and Le Duc Binh from Ninh Binh; Nguyen Van Binh and Tran Van Ngau from Ben Tre; Tran Quang Ngoc from Nam Ha; Nguyen Viet Dung, Mai Thuc Lan, Nguyen Ba Cu, and Tang Van Luy from Ha Bac; Thi Hong Duong from Ha Tinh; Le Thanh Dao from Hoa Binh; Le Quang Dao and Superior Bonze Kim Cuong Tu from Hanoi; Le Thi Thu Ba from Dong Nai; Ha Dang from Phu Yen; Do Van An and Lo Thi Luyen from Son La; Nguyen Thanh Phong from Dong Thap; Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu from Tien Giang; Ynong Nie Kdam from Dac Lac; Nguyen Thi Hong Minh from Minh Hai; Pham Van Tra from Haiphong; and Nguyen Duc Khoan from Quang Tri.

Ha Manh Tri, chairman of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, on behalf of the meeting secretariat and the standing bodies of the judiciary committee and drafting committee, presented a report on the views gathered from National Assembly deputies and the draft amendment to some articles in the draft law that had been pointed out by National Assembly deputies.

The National Assembly then voted to pass the name of the law. It also voted to pass one controversial article after another.

On 14 July, the National Assembly deputies will continue their work in the conference hall.

Assembly Thanks Mass Media

BK1407043393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] On 12 July, the National Assembly office held a news conference to appraise mass media coverage of the current Ninth National Assembly's Third Session.

At the conference, comrade Vu Mao, head of the National Assembly Secretariat asserted great contributions made by various mass media agencies in presenting news and information on the current National Assembly session to the people at large.

Over the past weeks, newspapers and radio and television stations have carried hundreds of articles and news reports on the current National Assembly session. Newspapers have reviewed proceedings of the National Assembly as well as its plenary meetings and group discussions. Many newspapers carried articles discussing democratic activities and legislative work of the National Assembly, while others opened such new columns as ideas of readers, behind the scenes views of the assembly, interviews with deputies, and so forth.

All newspapers carried daily activities of the National Assembly while the Voice of Vietnam carried daily and weekly reviews of the assembly proceedings. Various weeklys carried articles on the agenda and specific discussions of the National Assembly and presented their viewpoints on various issues, thus helping readers understand more about the assembly's democratic activities as well as efforts by the deputies to resolve the nation's pressing problems.

Comrade Vu Mao urged mass media agencies to continue to satisfactorily carry out their tasks in presenting news and information on the current National Assembly session, helping effectively implement the National Assembly's resolution in daily life.

14 Jul Morning Proceedings Noted

BK1407073193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] This morning, the Ninth National Assembly's Third Session continued its work at the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam reported to the National Assembly on our government's foreign affairs activities over the past six months. Afterward, Le Xuan Trinh, minister and head of the Government Office, reported on the results of the recent visit by our government delegation to the EC and European countries and a visit to Cuba by our party and state high-ranking delegation led by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

The National Assembly heard a report on deputies' viewpoints regarding the revised draft Land Law.

This afternoon, the National Assembly will continue its work at the conference hall.

Foreign Minister Discusses Premier's Cuba Visit

BK1307154193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam in Havana by station correspondent Dinh Khai; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [correspondent] Dear Comrade Foreign Minister, our party and government delegation led by Comrade Vo Van Kiet has paid an official visit to the Republic of Cuba. Could you please give us your evaluation of the results of this visit?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] First of all, I must say that in the last more than three decades, since the success of the Cuban Revolution, Cuba-Vietnam relations have been increasingly consolidated and strengthened. Overcoming

all challenges arising over time as well as geographical distance, the Cuban people and party have offered us very precious support and wholehearted assistance in the years and months that we had to fight the war under very difficult conditions. That manifested the spirit: For Vietnam, Cuba can even sacrifice its blood. Our people are very appreciative of that noble international sentiment. For our part, with a tradition of loyalty, we reserve honest and most deeply heartfelt feelings for the Cuban people. Moreover, after we won the war, when our country was enduring a very difficult situation, our cooperation with Cuba greatly contributed to overcoming the consequences left over by the war.

Recently, Cuba has been facing unprecedented difficulty. We, in our unity with Cuba, have been trying to help that country overcome its current difficulty. Consequently, as we know, there was a public campaign in our country to support Cuba. That campaign resulted in more than 11,000 tons of rice being donated to Cuba. That may not be much rice but it is a symbol of the unity and mutual assistance between the parties and peoples of the two countries.

Against that backdrop, the Cuban party and government invited our party and government delegation to visit Cuba. Our delegation was led by our prime minister. The delegation went to Cuba to bring the unity of the Vietnamese people and to express our belief that the Cuban people, a heroic race with a tradition of striving, will certainly overcome this difficulty to continue its revolution, take the country forward on its chosen path, and build socialism in the Western hemisphere.

Through the talks held between our party-government delegation and its Cuban counterpart led by Comrade Fidel Castro, it is possible to say that the honest feelings between the two countries were expressed on a large scale. The talks were held in a very friendly atmosphere. The contacts between our delegation and the Cuban people of all walks of life, as well as the sessions where we exchanged views with leaders of some sectors showed that the mutual understanding has been further strengthened through the visit. And on that basis, the two sides pledged to consolidate unity and broaden cooperation for mutual benefit.

It is possible to say that during the visit, we gained a better understanding of Cuba's achievements and found new fields for cooperation. For example, Cuba has made great achievements in biology, especially in health care and pharmaceutical production. We suggested cooperation in this field and Cuba was happy to oblige. On the other side, Cuba has great demand for foodstuffs and we have been implementing cooperation with Cuba on rice production. We also found many other fields that Cuba has a great potential in [words indistinct] and it is ready to cooperate with us in this field. In addition to that, we will also increase our cooperation in health care and education.

Therefore, the visit not only manifests our sentiments toward Cuba during its time of difficulty but also helps us to find different fields to increase bilateral cooperation. From that, we can say that our visit has achieved very fine results, meeting the aspirations and expectations of the two countries' peoples. It also contributes to further strengthening the close and unswerving friendship, fraternity, and unity between the peoples of the two countries.

[Correspondent] Comrade Foreign Minister, in your opinion, can we confirm that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cuba over many past years are time-honored ones and this visit by our party and government delegation is a step to further strengthen the unity, friendship, and cooperation between the two peoples?

[Nguyen Manh Cam] We must say that Cuba-Vietnam relations, despite geographical distance, are comradely and fraternal. The words comraderie and fraternity are a fair expression of the relations between the two nations, peoples, and parties. The Cuban comrades held that this visit occurred in time to meet everybody's expectations and it will surely strengthen the mutual understanding as well as the friendly, cooperative relations and the unity between the two parties and peoples.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

PRC Defense Minister Meets Veterans Delegation

OW1207014893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin 0830 GMT 11 Jul 93

[From the "News" program]

[Text] A Vietnamese Veterans' Association delegation, led by (Tran Van Quang), recently conducted a two-week friendly visit to China. Chi Haotian, Chinese minister of national defense, met with the Vietnamese delegation during its visit. During the meeting, both sides stressed that they should consolidate and develop the friendly cooperation and relations between soldiers and peoples of the two countries. The Vietnamese delegation visited some economic and cultural units in Beijing as well as some Chinese Army units.

Premier Issues Directive on Alcohol, Soft Drinks

BK1107055893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Jul 93

[Text] On 26 June, the prime minister issued a directive on controlling the quality of liquor, beer, and soft drinks. The directive set urgent measures for ministries, sectors, and localities to control and eliminate the production of poor quality or fake liquor, beer, and soft drinks.

The directive says: Authorized agencies should grant licenses only to breweries with appropriate production equipment and sufficient transportation facilities. Officials concerned must consistenly monitor and control

the production activities of these establishments. If they violate regulations governing the operation of breweries, measures will be taken to withdraw the licenses.

The directive also defines responsibility of the Ministry of Light Industry; the Ministry of Public Health; the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment; the Central Market Management Committee; and agencies concerned in implementing the regulations on controlling the standard quality of liquor, beer, and soft drinks.

Hanoi Court Tries Corruption, Smuggling Cases

BK1407094993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Jul 93

[Text] By the end of June, the Hanoi City People's Court had tried 72 major cases of corruption and smuggling. Among the accused were former chairmen and vice chairmen of district people's committees, cadres in charge of various departments, and directors of corporations or enterprises. Regarding smuggling, especially drug trafficking, the court has imposed heavy sentences on the offenders. Nguyen Trung Anh, for example, received a life prison term.

Detailed court reports, however, indicate that as far as those major corruption cases are concerned, many of the accused received only light sentences. Worse still, some of the accused received only warnings from the court.

New Daily Newspaper HAIPHONG Established

BK1207091593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 11 Jul 93

[From the press review]

[Text] Dear friends: We now have five daily newspapers in our country. They are NHAN DAN, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, HANOI MOI, SAIGON GIAI PHONG, and the newest, HAIPHONG.

In today's edition, HAIPHONG carries many items introducing various interesting tourist spots and tourist activities in this port city.

On page 3, it carries an article by Trong Chi depicting the charms and convenient system of tourist services at the Do Son tourist spot. Do Son could become even more attractive, however. The author says that although tourists come to Do Son in great numbers and the hotel occupancy rate is high, this is only on weekends. People from Haiphong visit Do Son in fairly large numbers, but few of them stay very long. Most people come for the beach and return on the same day.

The main reason Do Son cannot keep its visitors is that it lacks the recreational facilities of a seaside resort. The only recreational activity currently in the hotels and restaurants is video shows, but this has recently lost its appeal. The city's authorities should ponder ways to promote cultural activities, and activities like evening parties and concerts for tourists could be very attractive.

Seminar Discusses Plight of Soldiers' Families

BK1207093393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Jul 93

[Text] On 10 July, Ha Tay Province and NHAN DAN newspaper jointly organized a seminar on measures to fight the hunger and poverty facing the families of wounded or fallen soldiers.

Attending the seminar were 11 families representing those who have extricated themselves from poverty and 10 families representing those who still live in hunger and poverty.

Seminar participants exchanged views on how to engage in some forms of trade to extricate themselves from hunger and poverty.

A recent survey in Ha Tay showed that families of wounded or fallen soldiers who enjoy above-average living conditions accounted for 8.5 percent, while those who have a below-average standard of living accounted for 25 percent.

The seminar discussed measures to raise the local people's living conditions to above-average by 1995. The participants also discussed the causes of setbacks in developing the family economy and commended families who have extricated themselves from poverty.

On this occasion Ha Tay Province and NHAN DAN presented gifts to the representatives of families of wounded or fallen soldiers. NHAN DAN newspaper also donated 150,000 dong to each poor family to help them surge forward in the campaign against hunger and poverty.

Do Muoi Addresses Lawyers Congress 25 May

BK1307140793 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 May 93 pp 1, 4

[Speech by party General Secretary Do Muoi at the Eighth National Congress of the Vietnam Lawyers Association in Hanoi on 25 May]

[Text] I am very happy to attend the Eighth National Congress of the Vietnam Lawyers Association today. I take this opportunity to convey the best regards and congratulations of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee to all delegates, and through you, to all association members and Vietnamese lawyers in our country or overseas.

In our long struggle for independence and freedom, generations of Vietnamese lawyers, together with the entire people, have overcome difficulties, accepted sacrifices, and fulfilled all glorious and formidable duties with excellentce.

From the early days of our young democratic republic, in the most complicated and dangerous conditions, many members of the first generation of lawyers left their comfortable life behind to march with the entire people

under the great flag of the party and beloved Uncle Ho. They took part in the turbulent fighting and actively participated in the establishment of our people's government in its earliest stage.

Through the challenges of the dozens of years of fighting foreign invasions, our lawyers have clearly proven their ability in national and international tasks. They have helped clarify the legitimate struggle for independence and freedom of the Vietnamese people. Not only have they won extensive support from the world community, they have also contributed to the development of international law, especially in confirming fundamental national rights, a cornerstone of modern international law. Nguyen Huu Tho, Phan Anh, Pham Van Bach, Tran Cong Tuong, etc ...have emerged at the forefront as exemplary lawyers.

After national unification and in the socialist construction era, particularly in recent years, by maintaining solidarity and exerting great efforts and participating in the renovation set forth by the sixth national party congress, Vietnamese lawyers have successfully overcome difficulties in continuing to help strengthen the socialist legal system. This has made our administration truly one of the people, by the people, and for the people. I wholeheartedly commend the efforts and achievements of our lawyers.

As a socio-political organization with a great number of lawyers from all over the country, since its formation, the Vietnam Lawyers Association has always proven that it is a dynamic organization, loyal to the people's revolutionary undertaking under the CPV leadership, and a active member of the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

In recent years, after overcoming initial obstacles of changing structures and policy, limited funding, and poor working conditions, the lawyers have made great efforts to expand and strengthen itself, increase internal unity, widely link different generations of lawyers nationwide, accelerate activities, and have continued to contribute their share to the renovation. They have quickly diversified and multiplied their activities, internally and externally. In addition, they have always sought ways for a better operational form and method, especially in providing legal consultancy, which is now very much in demand in production, business, and individual activities.

We have a lot of work at present. The situation requires a brilliant policy, great willpower, good determination, and quick action. What we have done is very important, but the work that we are doing and will have to do is much greater and more complicated. The task of the entire party, people, and army is to quickly bring our country out of poverty and backwardness and build a Vietnamese nation of prosperity and happiness.

Being in the legal field, you should know more than anybody else that our legal system is weak in many aspects. In the past, the National Assembly and responsible organs have introduced many legal documents. However, in the coming period, we will have to try harder to promulgate a relatively perfect legal system to meet the demands of national construction and security, and the maintenance of our national independence, sovereignty, and integrity.

At the Eighth National Assembly session held to pass the 1992 Constitution, as well as at the national workshop held by the judicial sector in late 1992, I pointed out the need to carve out a law-binding government for Vietnam, considering this as one of the central tasks of our political system. That is the government that manifests its true nature as one of the people, by the people, and for the people. It is to be equipped with an increasingly modified legal system that is able to handle all aspects of social life and bring into full play all the potential of various economic components entering the market-oriented mechanism with state management and under socialist direction. The government is also to ensure human rights and create favorable conditions for all citizens to exercise their rights and fulfill their duties as masters of the country.

On external relations, we must quickly create a stable legal environment and take advantage of all the favorable conditions to broaden international relations in the economic and other fields, while effectively preventing every new manifestation of negativism.

We must continue to study all matters relating to international law, participate in various international fora, and deny all slanderous allegations about violations of democratic and human rights in Vietnam by those who have actually violated human rights. We must also clarify that it is the nature of our state and regime to respect human freedom and human rights, while gaining the sympathy and support of a broad segment of the world public and contributing positively to the cause of peace, cooperation, and development.

Today, at the rostrum of the Vietnam lawyers congress, I would like to assert once again that we must definitely manage our society by law and successfully apply the principle that has solemnly been affirmed by both the 1980 Constitution and the new 1992 Constitution. That is the consistent policy of the CPV and also a major lesson that has been taken from our daily life. Only by managing society by law can we restore discipline and state regulations, maintain and accelerate social development, and safeguard human rights, stability, and the peaceful life and occupation of the entire community. Obviously, this is a complicated and difficult task, because we have to change or basically reform the habit and lifestyle of society, renovate and improve the legal system and law enforcement mechanism, train and foster a contingent of highly competent lawyers, and educate every citizen to live and work in accordance with the constitution and law. It is important to promulgate laws. However, it is even more important to ensure that laws are respected and scrupulously obeyed throughout the

country by all sectors and echelons, and the entire people. To achieve this, we must exert even greater efforts in the process of enforcement.

I think that Vietnamese lawyers in general, as well as the lawyers association and its members, all have the high honor of taking the lead in the struggle to establish the legal system and state regulations and to bring them into practice.

As a mass organization of law practitioners, the lawyers association should expand its membership and rally an even greater number of intellectuals from all domains who have been trained in many different fields of study to jointly serve the cause of the nation. Many people among overseas Vietnamese are now engaged in law studies. The association should create favorable conditions for these brothers and sisters to have a chance to make even greater contributions to the country. We must respect the experiences of many aged lawyers who are still working energetically for social justice and discipline in our daily life. At the same time, we must also pay attention to young lawyers—those who are industriously engaged in studies to improve their knowledge in the hope of making contributions to the country and people.

It is necessary for the association to further develop the tradition of unity and mutual assistance in expanding political knowledge and technical and professional skills; maintain honest quality, integrity, justice, and impartiality in safeguarding the law; play an exemplary role in work related to law enforcement; and ensure purity among its members. Along with taking part in the study of various legal issues and preparing the drafts of certain laws, the association must exert efforts to help inculcate laws in cadres and the people and educate them or improve their knowledge so they can abide by the law. It must also actively participate in supervising work related to law enforcement and the struggle against infractions and crimes, especially corruption and smuggling, and restore and stimulate the people's confidence in the leadership of the party, the efficient management of the state, and the strictness and impartiality of the law.

In carrying out its activities, it is necessary for the association to coordinate with various mass and front organizations and cooperate with various state agencies on the basis of its functions and duties as stipulated by the law. The association must continue making a study to change its operational methods, using diversified and lively forms and measures that suit the condition of its members from different sectors to enable a large number of them to participate practically in its activities. The association must pay attention to the legitimate interests of its members; not only their material interests but also to their spiritual and intellectual interests, which are no less important. The association must ensure that its members are promptly furnished with new data on jurisprudence, legislation, and law enforcement so as to arouse their professional passion or make them rejoice at the practical results of their work.

Since the lawyers association is not an economic organization without business functions, a policy should be formulated by the state to give it some financial assistance. However, under the new mechanism and due to its independent and self-governing nature as a social organization, the association should also tap its own work as a source of income so it will have more funds for expanding its activities not only in the country, but also in international exchange and cooperation.

We are striving to increase the rate of socioeconomic growth in 1993 to gain firm momentum for more vigorous development in the coming years, thus gradually bridging the gap between our country and the other countries in the region. We are also struggling to overcome many difficulties and obstacles, including the state of tardiness of the judicial sector. It is hoped that our lawyers will uphold their sense of industriousness and responsibility toward the people. They must effectively contribute to solving pressing legal problems in work related to internal and external relations and strive to consolidate and strengthen the law-binding Vietnamese state for the purposes of making the people prosperous, the country powerful, and society civilized.

May I wish you, comrades and distinguished guests, good health.

May the Eighth Congress of the Vietnam Lawyers Association achieve fine success.

Australia

Evans Claims Success With ASEAN Security Move

BK1407062093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 14 Jul 93

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Gareth Evans, is claiming an Australian foreign policy success with the move by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN] to tackle a regional security framework. He says it is a big change for the region and follows Australia's push for regional security dialogue. The issue will be discussed by ASEAN foreign ministers in Singapore on the 23d of this month, followed by post-ministerial talks, which will include Senator Evans.

Senator Evans also rejected suggestions that Malaysian and wider ASEAN reluctance will block the plan for heads of government meeting under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] framework.

[Begin Evans recording] Well, it's too early to judge yet. The leaders' meeting proposed by us and also President Clinton is still some months away. We all knew that it wasn't a fait accompli, it is a matter of detailed discussion, negotiations with all the regional countries. The ASEAN countries have traditionally been rather cautious each step of the way about embracing the APEC idea. [end recording]

Officials: APEC Summit Likely Even With Absences

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[by Jack Taylor]

[Text] Sydney, July 14 (AFP)—Non-attendance by one or some of the 15 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group countries would not prevent the Seattle summit of APEC leaders' going ahead in November, officials said Wednesday.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating believes the enthusiastic support of countries like Japan, South Korea, Indonesia, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia and the United States means the chances of the summit going ahead are now better than 70 percent.

China and Malaysia are both still doubtful about attending and Thailand's Prime Minister Chuan Likphai indicated some hesitancy saying in a report published Wednesday that the objectives of APEC were still unclear. Chuan told the Australian Financial Review it was also unclear from the address by U.S. President Bill Clinton last week that there was anything in his remarks beyond a desire to have a leaders' meeting.

Australia thinks non-attendance by any country would be a pity, but it is also convinced the non-attendance would hurt themselves more than it would hurt the participants.

A spokesman for Keating told AFP that up to the G-7 meeting in Tokyo the chances of an APEC leaders summit this year were 20 percent or less, but that had been changed by Clinton's message. In it, Clinton proposed hosting an informal meeting of APEC country leaders following the scheduled meeting of APEC foreign ministers in Seattle in November.

Responding to Chuan's comments, Keating's spokesman said beyond the declared intention to give APEC a key role in liberalising regional trade, the formal structure and detailed objectives were still being worked out. The spokesman reiterated Keating's view that as the primary forum for economic co-operation in the region, "APEC has the potential to play a key trade liberalising and facilitating role." But a draft framework, which would give APEC a more formal structure, is being developed by officials for consideration at the November APEC Ministerial meeting in Seattle.

In addition, an APEC Eminent Persons Group to which each of the 15 countries has been invited to appoint a representative will deliver its first report on APEC's future path in Seattle.

Keating's goal for a substantially upgraded APEC is that it would represent an integrated market of 15 countries, including the world's three strongest economies with two billion people, producing half the world's output. They would be bound together with harmonised trade and investment rules, harmonised standards and certification and an agreed way of settling disputes between members.

The APEC countries are: Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

During his visit last month to China, Keating tried to persuade Chinese Premier Li Peng that it was in China's own interests to attend an APEC summit and that it would be doing itself a disservice by not attending. Chinese leaders maintained their objection to representatives of Taiwan and Hong Kong attending a leaders conference, regardless of their status, although Li told Keating personally that, having said that, the respective foreign ministers should continue to discuss the matter.

However, Keating's spokesman said that was before the address by Clinton which he said had "changed the entire landscape.